The Middlebury Campus

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Three Middlebury nominees receive Watson Fellowship

By Emily Manning
Managing Editor

For the second year in a row, three Middlebury nominees were selected for the prestigious Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, awarded last week. Seniors Amelia Berry, Jenna Sigman and Adina Racoviteanu are among the 60 students selected from a pool of over 1,000 nominees to receive the honor.

Middlebury was one of only four schools to have three students selected for the award. Most of the 50 participating colleges had only one or two students make the final cut. The other colleges who have three 2000-2001 fellows are Colgate University, Wellesley College and Oberlin College.

The Watson Fellowship program enables graduates with exceptional promise to engage in a year of independent study and travel abroad following graduation by providing them with $22,000 apiece. Since the Fellowship was instituted in 1961 by Jeanette Watson in the honor of her late husband and founder of IBM Thomas J. Watson, over 2000 fellowships have been awarded.

Middlebury's 2000-2001 fellows endured a grueling application process. In the fall, 50 seniors submitted applications to the Middlebury nomination committee, which consists of Director of Student Fellowships and Scholarships Arlinda Wickland, History of Art and Architecture Professor Pieter Broucke, English Department Lecturer Donald Mitchell and Dean of Students Emerita Erica Wonnacott. The selection committee interviewed 21 of the 50 students and nominated four. Over the winter, the four nominees were interviewed by the Fellowship Program.

Berry's project, which is entitled "Learning By Ear: The Steel Drum as Liberation," concentrates on studying the cultural importance of steel pan, the proper name for the steel drum. She will be traveling to Tobago and Trinidad to play with steel pan bands and learn about the pan's community significance. Tobago and Trinidad, according to Berry, is where the steel pan was invented. Berry will then travel to Barbados and Jamaica to learn to play other percussion instruments.

David Barreda / Courtesy photo

Seniors Adina Racoviteanu, Jenna Sigman, and Amelia Berry will be canvassing the globe next year as part of their Watson Fellowships.

Berry, who hails from Cincinnati, Ohio, said she became interested in the steel pan when, at 10 years old, she joined an after-school program that taught inner-city children to play the instrument. "The steel pan is a good medium for kids to use their energy," said Berry. "It [the steel pan] gets them [inner-city kids] off the streets, and I am grateful to have had that opportunity." She said she hopes to start a program of her own someday.

Wickland said the Middlebury selection committee was especially impressed with Berry's motivation and talent. "Her project is particularly striking because she plans to use steel drums as a vehicle for change, as a positive outlet for inner-city children."

Racoviteanu, the first international student from Middlebury to receive the Fellowship, plans to study the geography and religious importance of mountains. Entitled "Exploring Sacred Mountains: Myth and Morphology," her project will bring her to Nepal, Tanzania, Cameroon, Peru and Bolivia. She plans to study different peoples' religious beliefs and ceremonies to understand how the mountains

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Raging debate necessitates look at sweatshop monitors

NEWS analysis

By Nicole Miller
News Editor

Reminiscent of an era when student activism dominated campus discourse, colleges and universities across the nation have again been drawn headfirst into a splintering debate. A growing concern about the maintenance of ethical labor standards in the manufacturing of college apparel has led students to demand their schools to take a second look at their suppliers.

While the ends of this discussion may seem simple—the elimination of sweatshops—the emergence of The Worker Rights Consortium, a student-inspired watchdog organization, has divided opinions over the best processes for colleges to follow. Until recently, the only viable organization for colleges and universities to join in the fight against sweatshops was the Fair Labor Association. Created in the White House in August 1996 to address labor rights standards, the FLA now contains 134 member schools. However, that number is dropping as students are pressuring their schools to withdraw their FLA memberships in favor of the WRC.

Middlebury officially waded into the debate this spring when the College's own anti-sweatshop activists demanded an affiliation with the WRC. After a committee presented a report to President McCardell recommending the WRC, McCardell announced his decision to join the organization on a trial basis on March 8.

The College is now busy preparing for the founding meeting of the WRC in New York City on April 7. A delegation, consisting of Cori Loew, a member of the Middlebury Anti Sweatshop Coalition; Nicole

(see Sweatshop, page 4)

Judge dismisses lawsuit against College

By Alison Hertel
Staff Writer

A federal judge dismissed on a legal technicality the wrongful death lawsuit brought against Middlebury College by the parents of Ryan Waldron. Twenty-two year-old Waldron was killed on April 12, 1997, in a drunk driving accident.

Waldron was driving home to his off campus house from a party at Zeta Theta Phi when he hit a tree in Cornwall. According to the *Burlington Free Press*, Waldron's blood-alcohol content was 0.21 percent.

Waldron's father, Robert Waldron, sued the College in April 1999.

He charged that college officials and the social house Zeta Theta Phi did not prevent his son's death through their actions both that evening and in the months before. Waldron sought in excess of $75,000 from the college.

Karen McAndrew, the College's attorney, said, "We were pleased to see the case dismissed." According to McAndrew, the court never got to hear the merits of the case because "the case was dismissed for a legal reason."

There is a two-year period following a death when a wrongful death suit may be filed. An estate must be opened and an executor or administrator named. In the two-year period following Ryan Waldron's death an estate was not opened. Because of this legal technicality, the case was dismissed.

If the case had been judged on its merits, McAndrew said, "We think we would have been able to defend it."

Dean Ann Hanson said, "I think that Ryan's death was a real tragedy. I hope that now that this is resolved, it will help everyone move ahead, and heal. We all loved Ryan and his spirit. There are so many happy memories I have of him, and his spirit is a part of the Middlebury I know and care about."

National champions!

Trent Campbell, *The Addison Independent*

With a pair of victories over Augsburg, *the women's hockey team celebrated winning the first-ever Division III women's national championship on March 25 at Northeastern University's Matthews Arena.*

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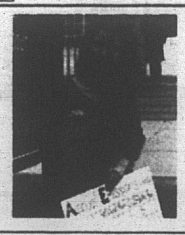

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Women's hockey wins first-ever national championship title
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Out like a lion

Peter Huoppi

Contrary to the popular saying, *the end of March was not very lamb-like, with high winds toppling trees like this one in front of McCullough.*

Former drug dealer requests pardon

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

Former Middlebury student John Zaccaro, Jr. is seeking a pardon from Vermont Governor Howard Dean for a 1988 drug dealing conviction. Zaccaro is the son of former vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro.

Zaccaro was a student at Middlebury in 1986 when he sold cocaine to an undercover police officer. He was found guilty and convicted of felony cocaine dealing.

According to John Quinn, Addison County State Attorney and prosecutor in the case, Zaccaro's nickname on the Middlebury campus was "The Pharmacist."

According to Quinn, Campus Security officers at the College heard rumors about Zaccaro's dealings and informed the local police.

A female undercover police officer posed as a student and purchased a quarter gram of cocaine from Zaccaro for $25.

Police obtained a search warrant for Zaccaro's off-campus apartment and his car. In his apartment, police found drug paraphernalia as well as a scientific scale belonging to the College and valued at approximately $1,000.

In Zaccaro's car, police found drugs and an envelope full of cash and checks, many from Middlebury students.

Zaccaro's defense attorney filed a motion to suppress the evidence found in the car on the grounds that the police did not have just cause to search Zaccaro's car.

According to John Quinn, Addison County State Attorney and prosecutor in the case, Zaccaro's nickname on the Middlebury campus was "The Pharmacist."

The judge in the case agreed and all evidence except for the undercover officer's $25 purchase was suppressed.

Zaccaro spent four months under house arrest in Burlington following his conviction.

Although Zaccaro did not graduate from Middlebury, he went on to law school. He is a member of the New York bar and practices law there.

Quinn said he does not believe Zaccaro should be pardoned because he was operating "an ongoing criminal enterprise."

"I don't think it sends the right message about drug dealing," he said. "I don't care how well he's done since then. The business of dealing cocaine has probably had a long-lasting impact on some of the students who became addicted to cocaine, and it ruined their lives."

Governor Dean told Burlington's Seven Days magazine that he was unaware of Zaccaro's pardon request and that pardon requests are confidential.

According to Seven Days, the corrections department is currently conducting a confidential investigation and will send a recommendation to the governor's office. The governor will then make the final decision.

Ferraro ran for vice president on the Democratic ticket with Walter Mondale in 1984.

According to Quinn, Ferraro always referred to her son's conviction as a charge involving only $25 worth of cocaine, even though she knew the other evidence had been suppressed.

Watson recipients explore wide range of topics for fellowship

(continued from page 1)

around them affect their cultures.

A Geography and Environmental Science major, Racoviteanu said that she has been interested in the geography and cultural importance of mountains ever since she was young. She grew up in Romania and has been climbing mountains since childhood. She plans to eventually get a Masters in Geography and pursue a career in mountain studies.

Wickland said she was struck with Racoviteanu's accomplishments and enthusiasm for mountains. "Everything she does outside of the classroom seems to have to do with mountains and she has such passion and drive to learn more about them," said Wickland.

Sigman, whose project is entitled "Penguins: Catalysts for Conservation Awareness," plans to combine her love of penguins and her interest in the environment by studying how penguins can be used to promote a cleaner world. Her fellowship will take her to Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and South Africa. Her project is centered on volunteering and talking with people, mostly children, in areas where there are penguin colonies. "My main point is to learn through volunteering how indigenous countries use penguins as a conservation tool," she said.

In South Africa, Sigman will be working with an organization that helps to rehabilitate penguins who have been injured from oil spills and plans to try to do some teaching in the local school district. "I'd like to lend myself to finding out what they can teach me," she said. "I want to see how they view the environment around them and how the penguin colonies they live in affect that view."

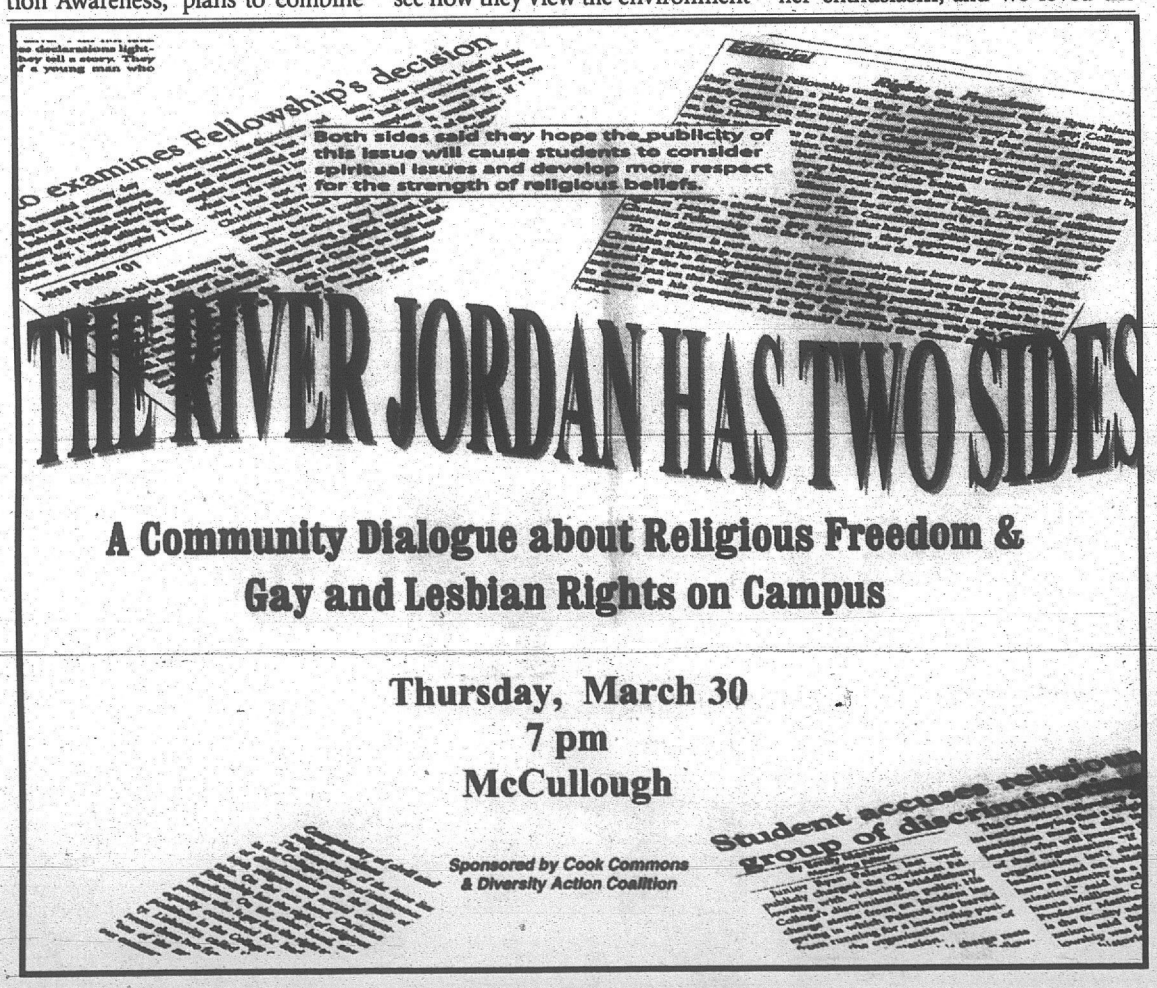
Sigman is an Environmental Science and English major and is in the process of getting her teacher's certification.

Sigman said she's been "fascinated" with penguins since she was two. She has spent a semester working with them at the Boston Aquarium. "This is a dream come true for me"

Sigman's "ultimate goal" is to write a children's book about penguins and conservation. "I'd like to draw on children's input to write a story about penguins in each country," she said.

"We [the selection committee] were taken by Jenna's enthusiasm for her topic," said Wickland. "She was a perfect candidate because of her enthusiasm, and we loved the idea that she was using the penguin as a vehicle for awareness."

Middlebury currently has three Watson Fellowship recipients studying around the globe. Megan Hankins '99, who is studying zoo architecture, is in Australia this month. John Mauro '98.5, who is also in Australia, is exploring the role of creation stories in the perception of the natural world. Stephanie Saldana '99 is in Rome exploring Christian writing in the millennium.


Both sides said they hope the publicity of this issue will cause students to consider spiritual issues and develop more respect for the strength of religious beliefs.
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McCullough
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Mozambique initiative sets sights on May trip

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

The Middlebury-Mozambique Relief Initiative (MMRI) continues to see success in its efforts to aid flood victims in the African nation. The group has raised over $3,000 and President McCardell offered to fund a trip to Mozambique for Middlebury students to help with the relief work.

The organization received donations from individuals and groups, both from the college community as well as the town.

Negar Ashtari '00, one of the organizers of MMRI, said, "More important than the sum of $3,000 raised is the fact that the Middlebury community cared enough to do something and was supported by such an amazing diversity of groups and individuals."

McCardell said he was "both pleased and touched" by students' efforts.

"It is easy to express concern about distant events," he said. "It is quite another to act on that concern by offering oneself to so enormous an effort."

McCardell offered to raise a "sizeable budget," according to Ashtari, to send a group of students to Mozambique. The budget will allow eight to 10 students to travel to Mozambique.

Ashtari said the trip will probably last about two weeks, including about 10 to 12 days in Mozambique and the necessary travel time. The trip will take place between May 23 and June 9.

"This is yet another way in which Middlebury students demonstrate their personal commitment to improving the world that lies beyond the College walls," said McCardell, "and it is with great respect for this exemplary willingness to make a personal difference that I have offered financial backing from the College."

Students interested in joining the relief team must write a two-to-three page essay explaining why they want to take part in the relief effort.

A selection committee appointed by McCardell will review the applications. The committee will take into consideration fluency in Portuguese or Spanish, validity of passport, previous volunteer experience, physical fitness and health, practical skills such as first aid or construction, and willingness to work under difficult circumstances and under the direction of supervisors and hosts, among other criteria.

The applications are due in the chaplain's office by noon on Friday, April 1.

The selection committee will make their decision in early April, according to Ashtari.

Soaring oil costs exceed budget, spark environmental concerns

By Meleah Chamberlain
Staff Writer

Heating costs for the College rose along with the world's oil prices recently, causing excess costs over the estimated budget and inspiring oil conservation efforts.

The College currently pays around 80 cents a gallon for the number six oil necessary for heating building spaces and water on campus. According to Jon Woodbury, director of Facilities Management, at this time last year the College paid 43 cents a gallon, which is the amount included for heating in the budget.

As a result of a higher prices, the College predicts to spend around $400,000 over the original budgeted amount of $.9 million for heating oil.

Woodbury said, "I've never seen this kind of increase ever before. Not even in 1984 when the price jumped from less than 20 cents to 50 cents a gallon."

According to Amy Emerson, budget director, if the College were to spend the budgeted amount on everything else, the extra heating money would need to come from the endowment. The amount that is actually taken out of the endowment depends on how much other programs spend over or under their budgets.

"It is a part of process of balancing at end of year," said Emerson. "Some things we have no control over, like taxes and the price of fuel, but things like how much oil we use we do have control over. The more we have to spend on oil, the more it cuts down on what else we can spend money on. We're trying to be financially prudent and environmentally conscious."

Amy Seif, environmental coordinator and member of the Environmental Council, said she wanted to raise awareness of the cost and environmental implications.

She placed table tents in Proctor describing the higher costs and listing ways to reduce the amount of wasted energy. Suggestions included using the thermostat to regulate heat in classrooms and rooms rather than opening windows, only using heat when needed and turning off lights when possible.

The College also uses oil in the heating plant for hot water, food preparation, heating building space, and laboratory in the science building. Gasoline, which also increased in price, is used to run campus fleet vehicles, larger vehicles and College vans, as well as the cars of the individual members of the school.

According to Seif, the rising prices offer a greater incentive for an alternate form of transportation, a project the Environmental Council has been working on. An electric bus will be visiting the College on a trial run from April 3 to 14.

"We'd like to change the way people get around campus and we've been pushing for incentives and disincentives to encourage alternate transportation," she said. "The rising gas prices fall at a good time."

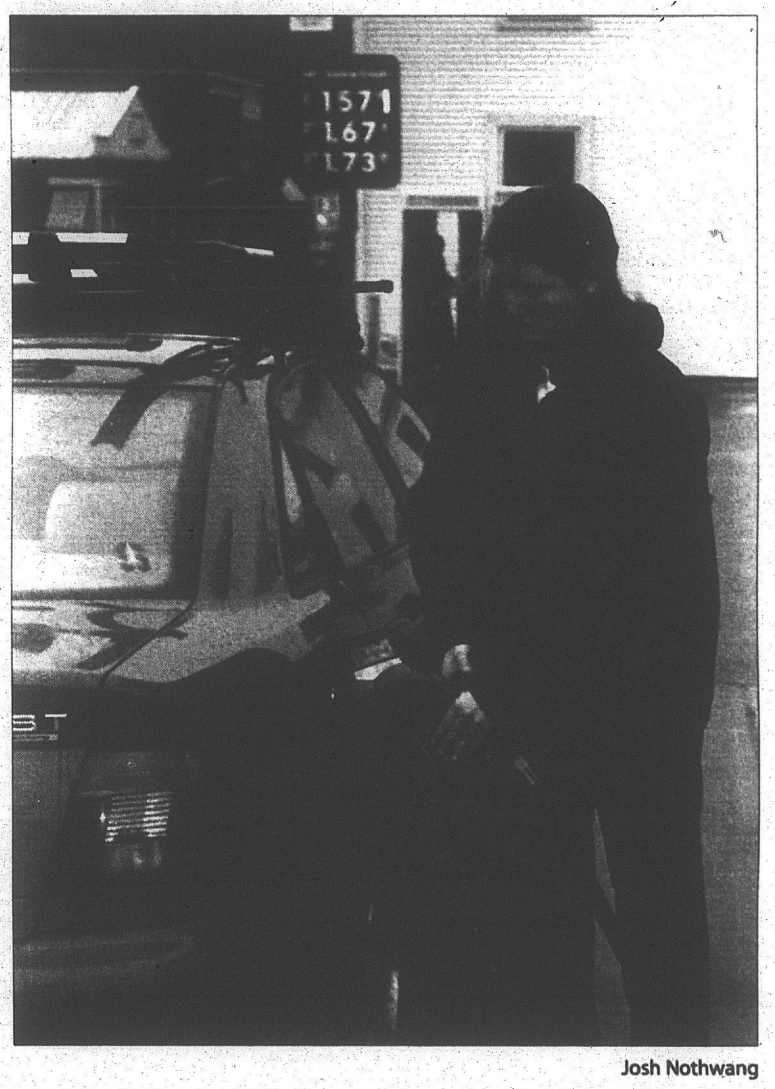
Joshua Onion '02, President of EQ, said he agrees that higher gas prices might help the environment. "There's a lot of superfluous driving occurring and rising gas prices might make folks think twice," he said. "It's a reminder because gas is hitting pocketbooks harder."

Seif said, "This is about more than lowering the cost of things, it has long-term environmental benefits. We are transforming the entire earth through our actions. We are hoping that people will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and types of pollution caused by transportation and traffic. Gas prices are a disincentive and a way to accomplish what we want to do."

The universal rise in gas and oil prices occurred as a result of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) decision last March to slash oil production.

Woodbury said, "OPEC is telling us that we are burning too much fuel oil and so held back on what was available. OPEC met yesterday and agreed to increase production. The prices will not go back to where they were, but will end up somewhere in between."

According to Seif, the gas prices in the United States are subsidized by the government and are not the true cost of the oil, which is what people in European countries pay..



Josh Nothwang

Megan McCosker '01 fills up her car in town despite rising gas prices.

SGA enables online transcripts for spring

By Alison Hertel
Staff Writer

Students returned from break to find that transcripts are available online. The transcripts show student grades and the term in which the student took the course. They can be accessed through the Personal Student Information page in MARS.

The SGA worked with Information Technology Services (ITS) and the Dean of Students office to bring about the change.

SGA President, Dana Dunleavy '00, said that this seemed like it would be a "really simple change."

However, according to Dunleavy, "there were some holdups along the way."

He said it took some time to get the Faculty Council's approval and for ITS to get the transcripts safeguarded.

"We had a lot of help from various administrators," he said.

Dunleavy attributed some of the ground work for this project to David Paul '00 and James Okomboli-Ongonga '00.

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Sweatshop monitors divide colleges, WRC prepares first meeting

(continued from page 1)

Miller '01, news editor of the *Middlebury Campus*; Bob Santry, manager of the College bookstore; and Eric Davis, secretary of the College, will be attending the meeting next week.

Common goal, divided means

The concern over sweatshop-produced college apparel has united many students across the nation in a common goal. A national Sweat-Free Campus Campaign began in the summer of 1997 after interns of the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees (UNITE) brainstormed the idea. In 1998, a newly formed Students United against Sweatshops (SUAS) spread at about 30 universities across the country and made its case known through various demonstrations and programs.

The first school to respond with a code of conduct was Duke University, followed within a month by Brown University.

According to Loew, the SUAS originally worked with the FLA. However, after students expressed concerns to the organization about it not being independent and not requiring companies to disclose the location of its factories, the FLA did not give any feedback. In response, the students decided that it was time to take action and instigate their own organization. Then, with the collaboration of the students, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and various Labor Unions, the idea of the WRC was conceived.

Since then, students and universities have been divided over which organization would be able to more successfully monitor the practices of factories around the world.

Student protests have dominated the headlines at many schools over the last few months. The University of Pennsylvania and the University of Wisconsin at Madison recently agreed to pull out of the FLA after student sit-ins in the presidents' offices. While Wisconsin decided to join the WRC, Penn is still waiting for more information before it joins either organization.

There are now 27 schools affiliated with the WRC—making a three-fold increase in a matter of weeks.

Robert Durkee, the vice president of public affairs at Princeton University and the representative member of universities on the governing board of the FLA, is concerned about the divisive nature of this debate on college campuses.

"It is possible that the acrimony of the debate over which organization is most effective has led some schools simply to steer clear," he said. "That seems to me unfortunate."

However, he is pleased that students are coming together in such a good cause. "All of us, whether students or administrators, whether in the FLA, the WRC, or both, are concerned about workers in abusive, sometimes inhumane, conditions, and do not want products with our school's name on them to be produced under such conditions," Durkee said.

Middlebury enters the fray

Middlebury began drafting its own "Code of Conduct" early in 1999. A committee consisting of Santry, Mark Williams, assistant professor of political science, Tom Kelly, assistant professor of economics, Alex Zwerdling '00, Peter Nestor '01, and Virginia Snodgrass '02 presented a first draft of the code to the College in the Spring of 99. After a back-and-forth with the College's lawyers in Burlington, the Middlebury College Apparel Manufacturers Code of Conduct was signed by McCardell on November 30, 1999.

According to Santry, Middlebury's code sets some of the highest standards in the nation. Since its release, he said that at least 25 schools have requested copies to use as a guide for their own codes.

Santry also said that he believes that the WRC may have even based some of its code on Middlebury's—citing various similarities in the two documents.

The Code of Conduct applies to "all logo or image bearing apparel of the College" and "regulates all persons or entities who sell manufactured apparel bearing the name and/or images of the College."

The Code establishes standards in accordance to Legal Compliance, Ethical Principals and Employment Standards including wages, working hours, overtime, child labor, forced labor, health and safety, nondiscrimination, women's rights, harassment or abuse and freedom of association and collective bargaining.

Contractors must provide reports guaranteeing the adherence to the set standards, disclose all factory locations, and post the code in each factory in the language of the employees. If the company fails to meet these standards, the College maintains the right to terminate its relationship with the contractor.

Middlebury's code also calls for a verification and monitoring organization to make sure that each factory is meeting the written standards. The code states that the monitor should report any violations to the college, conduct periodic announced and unannounced visits of factories and allow Middlebury to make its own decisions about its relationship with each contractor in response to the monitor's reports.

A debate over method

The FLA and the WRC appear to have a lot of the same goals; however, their systems of monitoring and governance are very different. Both organizations claim that the other is too closely affiliated with organizations or companies with biased interests and both the FLA and WRC say they believe their organizational structure to be the most productive in bringing back results.

The WRC is still in a formative stage. While an advisory council consisting of various NGOs and labor organizations was formed several years ago, the actual governing board is not going to be elected until the April 7 meeting. The board will contain 12 members, six from the Advisory Committee, three students and three college administrators.

The organization plans to remain university-specific and give full disclosure of codes of conduct violations to participating schools. It will work towards empowering factory workers to speak out for their rights through employing various local NGOs that are familiar with the countries.

Maria Roeper, currently the only paid staff member of the WRC, explained the organization's goals on a three-tiered system:

"The first leg is full and public disclosure of all working and living conditions, the second is worker complaint, allowing workers to prompt investigation, and the third is proactive investigation in collaboration with local NGOs," she said. "We want to create a tri-parted base of information in a consortium way."

The WRC is funded through various grants, and through the annual dues of the participating schools. It is currently applying for non-profit status, but according to Roeper that process cannot be completed until the governing board is selected.

The FLA is not an independent organization like the WRC. It was formed under the Clinton administration in collaboration with participating companies. The governing board consists of 14 members, including six representatives of manufacturers, six representatives from NGOs, one representative from colleges and universities, and a chairman.

One major difference is that while the WRC calls for unannounced spot inspections of factories, the FLA sets up a system for regular annual inspections.

Durkee, speaking on behalf of the colleges affiliated with the FLA, does not believe that the WRC's proposed spot check monitoring will satisfy most schools.

"There are also questions about how the WRC will make decisions, carry out its activities and assure the credibility of its monitoring system," he said.

Another concern about the WRC is the influence of the labor movement in the organization.

McCardell is skeptical that the emergence of the WRC merely reflects an internal conflict within the labor movement.

Others are worried about the affiliation of the AFL-CIO and UNITE with WRC.

However, WRC supporters claim that the FLA is too heavily influenced by manufacturers.

Durkee disagrees with the claim and said that the consumer groups with which the FLA works are committed to adhering to the codes' standards and principals.

"It is fair to ask whether the WRC's antagonistic and adversarial approach of the FLA's collaborative approach will produce the best results," he said, "but given the enormous costs that companies will have to incur to live up to these standards, I would guess that the chances of meaningful and sustainable change are better through an organization in which they have been active participants."

The WRC, however, is more concerned with empowering the workers than with collaborating with the various companies. Roeper called the WRC a watchdog that would be made less effective if it was not independent of the companies which it monitored.

Trust but verify

Going into the WRC's first meeting in April, McCardell said that at this point he is mostly concerned with results.

"It is simple and straightforward now," he said. "Facts and actions will speak louder than words. We will judge them on the degree to which they can demonstrate an ability to effectively monitor the factories that are producing Middlebury apparel."

Davis said he had the same opinion and said that the delegation's main goal at the meeting is to answer some questions about governance but mainly to make sure that the college will get "regular assurance that the goods sold at Middlebury College are from factories that meet the standards in our code."

Santry, who has been in communication with representatives with the three main apparel suppliers to the college (GEAR for Sports, Champion and JanSport) said that he is fairly confident that the companies are complying with the need to disclose factory locations, but that at this point there is no way to determine if the companies are meeting all the other standards.

"So far we have made a step in the right direction," said Santry. "Champion, for example, is disclosing the addresses of all the factories that provide our apparel—which is a complete 180 degree turn from last year. However, we still have a long way to go in determining full compliance."

At the meeting, the delegation plans to determine how effectively the WRC will be able to monitor the College's contractors and to help in the selection of the governing board of the organization.

"We have to look as results now," said McCardell. "Who is going to get results? We need to trust, but verify—that is the key at this point."

WRC & FLA: Face to Face

	WRC	FLA
Governance	A 12-member board: three students, three college administrators, and six members of the advisory council (made up delegates from human-rights groups).	A 14-member board: six representatives from apparel manufacturers, six from human rights groups and workers' groups, one representative from a college, and a chair.
Funding	Budget: a $22,000 grant from the New York-based New World Foundation. Member dues: one percent of licensing revenues, with a minimum of $1,000 and a maximum of $50,000.	Budget: $1.3 million. Received a $739,000 grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development. University dues range from $100 to $50,000. Company dues range from $5,000 to $100,000.
Monitoring Process	Would perform surprise inspections. Monitors would be alerted to problems from complaints from workers and would use spot inspections concentrated in areas with patterns of code violations.	Would hire independent monitors to investigate working conditions at 30 percent of a company's factories within the next three years, and then five-to-15 percent in each year after. The rest of the factories would be monitored by the companies themselves.
Complaint Procedure	Will receive and verify worker complaints of abuses and violations of the WRC code. It will work with worker-allied groups to establish the system to receive and verify complaints.	Establishes a third party complaint procedure to investigate complaints brought anonymously or publicly. Complaints may be brought by workers, by an NGO or by anyone else.
Reporting	Would publicize violations of codes of conduct. Would require publication of factory locations. Also, the manufacturer would have to publish all objectional measures of working conditions including wages, average work hours and a history of violation of workplace laws.	Requires annual report of compliance from each participating manufacturer. Does not require that sites of factories be published, though some universities now require that information.

Panel discusses Mideast peace issues

By Ron Schildge
Staff Writer

The Geonomics Department held a round-table discussion, "Peace and the Golan Heights: Prospects and Implications for the Syria-Israel Negotiations," on Wednesday, March 29. The panel consisted of renowned speakers representing both sides and the discussion focused on the future security arrangements of Syria and Israel and water resource conflict.

"Professor Mayer and Professor Stanger are a gift to the college and have done a wonderful job putting together so many representatives of the different sides of this controversial issue," said David Edleson, dean of Cook Commons.

The discussions revolved around the recent controversy over the Golan Heights, currently within the north of Israel. Peace talks have focused on the Syrian push for the turning over of the territory, which had been theirs before 1967. The difficulties faced by leaders stemmed from their inability to maintain their country's peace and security while attempting to reach a diplomatic solution.

The panel discussion included Raghida Dergham, Itzhak Levanon, Hisham Melhem and Aaron T. Wolf and the moderator was Tamar Mayer, professor of Geography. Allison Stanger, associate professor of political science and the director of the Geonomics Center, opened the event.

Dergham, Senior Diplomatic Correspondent for Al Hayat, spoke first on the current state of Syrian-Israeli peace negotiations. She gave an in-depth look at many of Israel's present and past boarder disputes.

Levanon, the Consul General of Israel to New England, gave the Israeli perspective on the role of the Golan Heights in the peace agreements. He outlined what he called the four "legs of the chair" on which Israel placed its security.

According to Levanon, these legs were the adequate security of its people, the stability of its international relations, the control of surrounding hostile states, and the withdrawal of outside forces on Israeli soil. These issues all ride upon the question of whether Syria wants true peace or continued hostility.

Hisham Melhem, an Arab correspondent for As-Safir, Al-Qabas, and Radio Monte Carlo represented the Syrian point of view. He said that the conflicts were no longer "existential" forms of hatred for opposing sides and they rested solely in territory and water resource disputes.

The difficulty faced by leaders stemmed from their inability to maintain their country's peace and security while attempting to reach a diplomatic solution.

According to Melhem, the creation of Israel has been a threat to Syria's economic, strategic and political stability, but their existence has since been accepted by the Syrian people.

"Melham was very articulate," said Phillip Consentino '00.

Wolf, an assistant professor of geography at Oregon State University, brought the discussion to the water resource issue. He explained how territory and water are "inexplicably linked." He said that though Israel and Syria are in confrontation over these resources, their international relations have only improved through the 1990s. The specific problems that are arising now must not stop this progress towards peace.

The issue that may be of larger importance than temporary peace is the establishment of a permanent form of diplomatic relations.

"My question is what kind of peace will it be?" asked Jonathan Shapira '02. "Both sides need to increase trust rather than just redrawing a line. True peace means cooperation between the countries, not just an absence of conflict."

"It was helpful to hear a more subjective view on a topic I had only heard of objectively," said Alex Westra '03.5. "The panel was very diverse and represented the opposing sides very well."

A dinner and a question-and-answer session with the speakers followed the panel discussion.

Mary Catherine Maxwell
Itzhak Levanon spoke in a round-table discussion at Geonomics Wednesday.

SGA ELECTIONS!

Interested in running for
Student Government Association
President
or
Student Co-Chair of Community Council?

Any Student who will be enrolled for the duration of the 2000/2001 academic year may be eligible to run for either position.

The President of the SGA represents the student body at meetings or functions within and outside of the College Community; serves as the chair of the Presidential Cabinet, and ultimately makes all Presidential Cabinet decisions; is responsible, with the help of the SGA Presidential Cabinet, for setting the agenda for Student Senate meetings; and is ultimately responsible for the execution of all SGA action. The President also serves as an ex-officio member of Community Council.

The Student Co-Chair of Community Council runs Community Council meetings with the Dean of Student Affairs; sets the agenda for Community Council with the Dean of Student Affairs; nominates student members to the Community Council; and is a member of the SGA Presidential Cabinet.

IMPORTANT DATES –

Mandatory informational sessions:
March 30 at 7 PM
or
April 3 at 7 PM
in the SGA conference room
(across from the ATM Machine in McCullough)

Applications Due:
April 7 at 5 PM in SGA office

Speeches and Debates:
April 11 at 7:30 PM in McCullough Hall

Elections:
April 20-21 ONLINE

http://www.middlebury.edu/~sga

Angela's Italian Restaurant

Specials:
Mon - 2 Buck Night
Tue - Ladies' Night
all frozen drinks $3
all well drinks $2
Wed - Canadian Night
all Canadians $2
Johny Whatever Group - no cover
Thur - Bone Night
bones $3.50, pints $1.50

Angela's Upstairs Lounge

Tue - Courtney Brocks
9 pm - 12 am, no cover
Wed - Zack Sinick, Midd grad
Guitar and vocals
9:30 pm - 12:30 am

Angela's Pub
(entrance to the right by driveway)
Friday - Live Music, 9 pm - 1 am
Saturday - DJ

Great Italian food
in a small Vermont town
Main Street
Middlebury

Look for new large pizza
Check Out New Late Night Menu!
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Tax bill stands to alter College-town relations

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Local News Editor

A bill that would fundamentally change Middlebury College's monetary relationship with the town of Middlebury passed the Vermont House of Representatives on March 24 and now stands ready to go before the state Senate.

The bill, known as H.53, would change taxation and Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) regulations for non-profit and educational groups, such as the College. Under the new legislation, it would be mandatory for the College to enter into a PILOT agreement with the town in compensation for the town's contribution of municipal services.

The effect of this bill will be that the orientation of what we pay to the town will be a payment rather than a gift.
—Phil Benoit, Director of Public Affairs

Agreements regarding these "mandatory impact fees" would take the form of contracts between the town and College lasting up to five years. Currently, the College presents the town with periodic "gifts" in recognition of services the town provides, such as police protection, rather than handling payment through a specified agreement.

Initially, the bill sparked a great deal of controversy between town and College officials, largely due to a clause allowing the town to impose a tax rate equal to 50 percent of the local property tax on College lands if a PILOT agreement was not reached by the bill's specified deadline of 2004. The concern was that it would be more advantageous to the town to not settle on a PILOT agreement and instead inflict the 50 percent tax rate on College lands.

The initial wording of the bill provided no effective checks and balances to assure that this situation would not arise.

However, before the bill passed the House, an amendment was made to the text, stipulating that the 50 percent tax rate could only be imposed if the College refused to participate in binding arbitration in the event that an agreement could not be negotiated. The amendment also called for a mediation stage to precede binding arbitration proceedings.

"We were fighting it until the wording was changed," said Phil Benoit, director of public affairs at the College.

"The effect of this bill will be that the orientation of what we pay to the town will be a payment rather than a gift," said Benoit. In 1994, the college proffered an unrestricted "gift" of one million dollars to the town.

Benoit said that if the bill is passed, the town and College will have to quantify the services the town provides and also "incorporate the value of what the College gives to the town." The College currently supports the town by making the library and hockey rink available to high school students and supporting the Fire Department through the gift of a fire engine among other services.

[The bill] would establish some much needed changes for all kinds of tax-exempt properties, not just the College.
—Betty Wheeler, town manager

Although the Middlebury Town Selectmen have not taken a position on the bill as yet, their Chairman John Tenny was quoted in the *Addison Independent* as being supportive of the bill. "I think this puts us in a position where we would have a better position of discussion. I applaud this approach. It formalizes a dialogue and sets some parameters for working together." However, other selectmen voiced concerns that the new law could potentially increase conflict between the town and College.

Town Manager Betty Wheeler said that the bill "would establish some much needed changes for all kinds of tax-exempt properties, not just the College."

The establishment of a legal framework within which the town could bring its concerns regarding services to the bargaining table was also a point Wheeler stressed. "It would establish a level playing field in negotiations," Wheeler said.

Benoit also acknowledged that the PILOT provision in the bill would allow the town more access in terms of participation. "If they're not satisfied, they can bring this to the table," he said.

There has been concern on the part of some, including Middlebury College President John McCardell, that reducing the relationship between the College and the town to an accounting sheet may harshen town-gown relations.

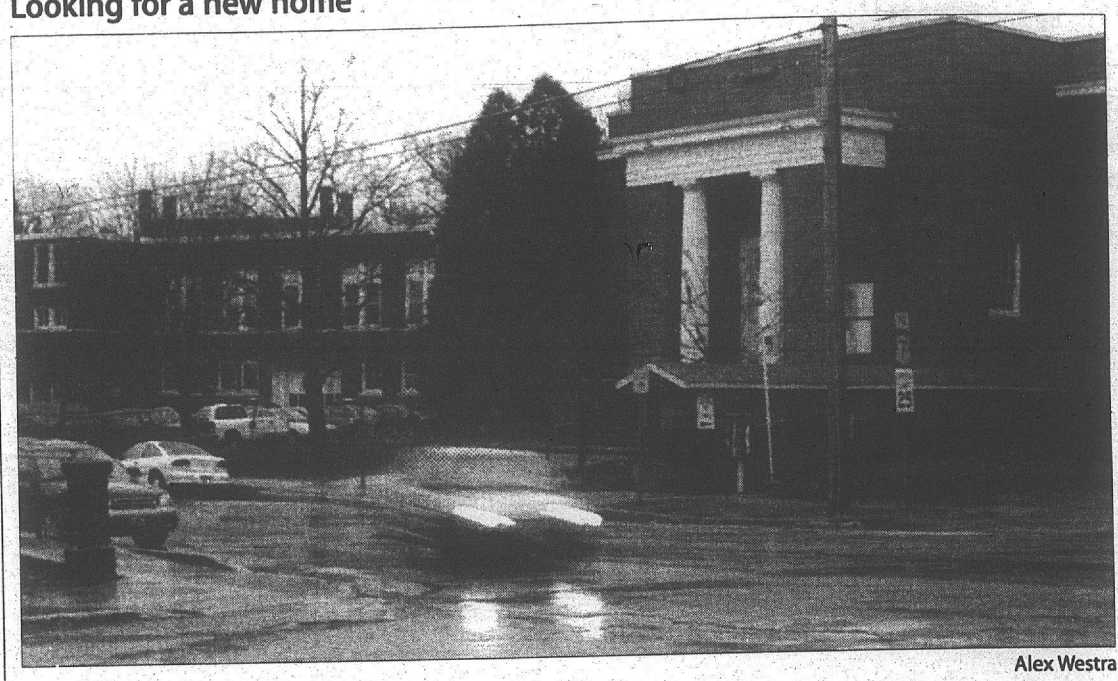
Benoit responded to this concern by stressing the long-standing relationship between the college and the town that founded it. However, he qualified this statement, saying, "By setting this up as a transaction, it probably won't be as cordial."

The bill also confers some sheer benefits on the College. Its wording ensures the College tax-exempt status on the College's land used for educational purposes, reading, "The following property shall be exempt from all property taxation…Real property owned or leased by colleges, universities, academies or other public schools."

This exemption is qualified with the clause, "The exemption of lands owned or leased by colleges, universities, academies or other public schools shall not apply to lands or buildings rented for general commercial purposes, nor to farming or timber lands owned or leased thereby; but this provision shall not affect the exemption of so-called school or college lands, sequestered to such use prior to January 28, 1911."

The bill currently awaits Senate vote, with a decision expected before the end of the legislative session.

Looking for a new home



Alex Westra

Awaiting its fate, *the Middlebury municipal building has long been neglected according to residents at this month's town meeting. A new building was proposed at the site of Steele's Mobile, but meaningful action has yet to be taken.*

LOCAL shorts

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Local News Editor

Ben & Jerry's unveils plans to go private

Ben & Jerry's ice cream, headquartered in Waterbury, Vermont, will soon be a privately held company again. The ice cream company, which was founded by Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield in 1978, originally went public in 1984. Since then, the socially responsible company has encountered problems in balancing their social initiatives and shareholder profits. A company shareholder described the deal as giving Cohen, who owns about a million shares of Ben & Jerry's, control of 36 percent of the company. A similar proportion of the shares would go to Meadowbrook Lane Capital, a group of investors describing itself as socially responsible. The remaining 28 percent would be held by Unilever, the British-Dutch giant that owns Ben & Jerry's competitors, Breyer's ice cream and Good Humor bars.

Middlebury opens new sewage plant

Seymour Street residents were relieved March 13 when the town opened a new sewage plant in the town's industrial park. Residents had been complaining for decades about the pervading foul smells of the old plant. The Seymour Street plant will be deactivated, and the town is currently considering what to do with the land. A much hailed suggestion is making the property, which borders on Otter Creek and contains a popular sledding hill, into a town park under the jurisdiction of the Middlebury Parks and Recreation Department. No firm plans have been presented yet.

Leicester man sentenced to prison in attempted kidnapping

Addison District Court Judge Dean Pineles sentenced Raymond Alexander, 54, to 35-years-to-life in prison, following his conviction for attempted kidnapping. The conviction resulted from a April 13, 1999 incident in which Alexander attempted to kidnap a female from her workplace on Exchange Street in Middlebury. The harshness of the sentence is attributed to Alexander's long history of assaults on women, beginning with an attempted-rape conviction in 1967. Alexander has spent most of his adult life in jail and has been unwilling to engage in therapy, as well as lacking remorse for his crimes.

Shoreham apple cooperative receives lift from loans

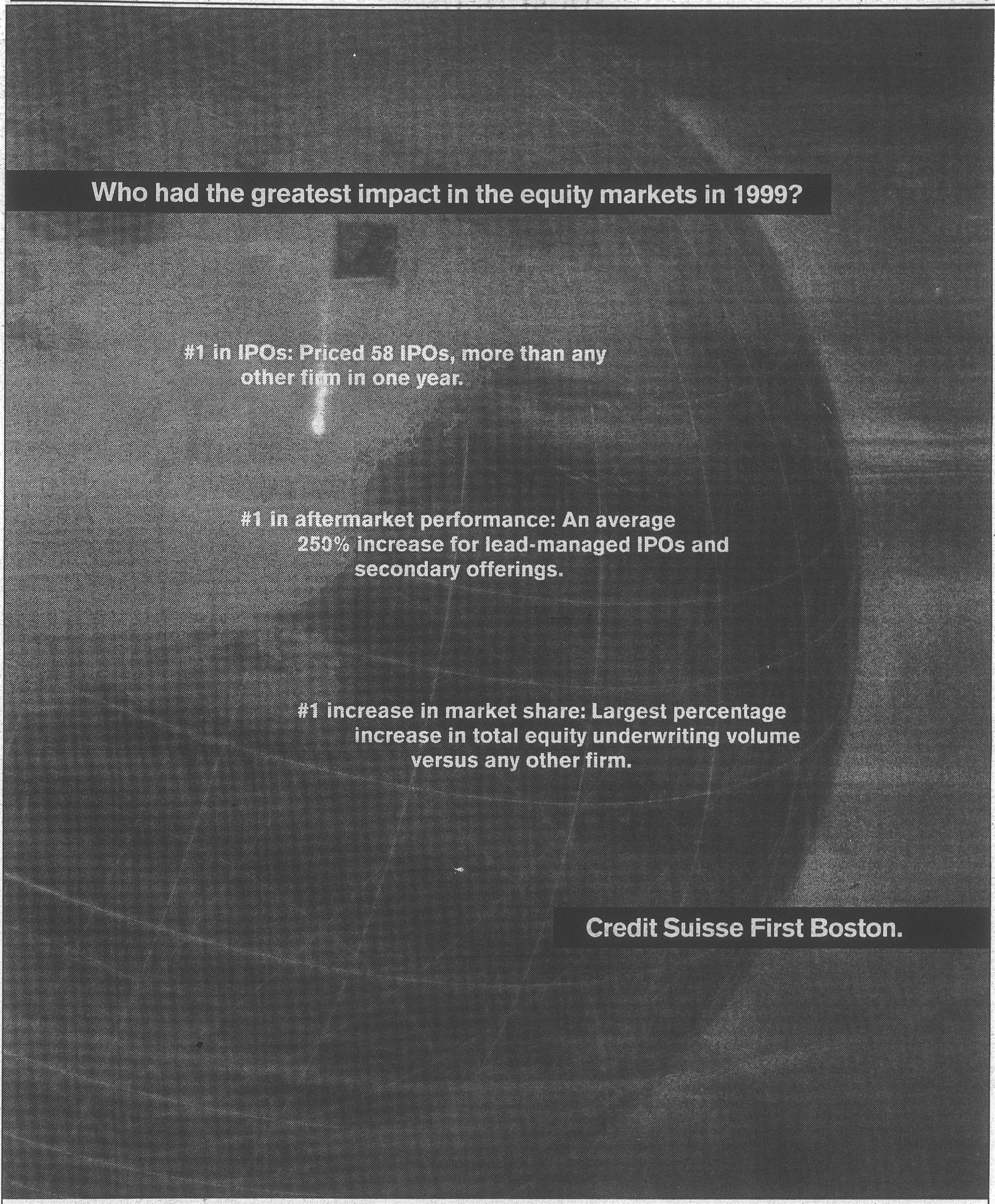
The Shoreham Cooperative Apple Producers Association will be supported by over $600,000 in loans from area banks and economic development organizations. The money will go towards upgrading the organization's storage and packaging facility, as well as providing funds for repairs and new machinery. Before its renovations this summer, the apple packing plant had been closed for three years due to outdated equipment and increased competition. The loans will also reimburse the organization for the renovations that began last summer.

Sources: *The Rutland Herald* and *The Addison Independent*

Teachers Wanted

Middlebury College's Teacher Education Program offers a minor in Teacher Education which leads to elementary or secondary school certification in Vermont and 37 other states.

The job market is very strong and the pay is good. To find out more, contact Bob Prigo, Director of Teacher Education,BIH 515, x5425, prigo@middlebury.edu.


Who had the greatest impact in the equity markets in 1999?
#1 in IPOs: Priced 58 IPOs, more than any other firm in one year.
#1 in aftermarket performance: An average 250% increase for lead-managed IPOs and secondary offerings.
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Editorial

The Not-so-magic Bus

In four days the College will play host to an electric bus that will test the feasibility of an on-campus shuttle and of electrically powered transportation. Over the next two weeks, students will be transported across campus as part of the project sponsored by the Environmental Council. It is possible that the bus will attract a large number of students, but merely having students ride the bus does not mean that the test is successful. In order for the bus to be needed at the College, its proponents must clearly show that it reduces the amount of driving on campus.

The supporters of the electric shuttle have published schedules and bombarded students with information regarding the bus. The advertising makes it seem as if the key reasons to ride the bus, is not the environmental benefit, but is the free food: donuts, cookies and cider, as well as a chance to win a free dinner. Undoubtedly, this will serve as an attraction for some members of the College community to ride the bus. The question remains, will the people ride the bus after the food is no longer part of the ride? If the point is to gauge how many students would use the bus on a regular basis, then it should be tested with no promotional inducements to ride it.

A more important question, however, is who is riding the bus? If the students who ride the bus would normally walk to class is there any need for a shuttle at all? The College should be encouraging activity— even if it is just walking to class— as opposed to allowing lethargy to thrive. It seems that part of the Middlebury mystique is that students are generally healthy and physically fit; should the College finance a way for students to be lazy? Absolutely not. Students who currently walk to class should continue to do so and there would seem to be no need for the bus.

The proponents of the electric shuttle, however, maintain that there is a need; the shuttle service would provide a viable alternative to driving to class. It is argued that with a shuttle those people too lazy to walk or those who are late for class could use the bus instead of their cars. Even one gas-powered bus would be better than three cars; the fact that this bus is electric is merely an environmental bonus. The question remains, however, as to whether those who already drive would be willing to wait for the bus at its designated stops when they could just jump into their cars and get where they are going faster.

If the bus limited student driving on campus, then having a shuttle with regular service would undoubtedly be a benefit for the College community and the global environment. If it does not, however, it would simply be a waste of the College's money. Over the two weeks of the shuttle service the Environmental Council needs to perform an in-depth study of who is riding the bus. This does not simply mean that X number of people rode the bus, it means questioning each rider as to why they are taking the bus and, more importantly, if they would have driven otherwise. If a clear connection can be made between a decrease in driving and the bus, then the College should consider providing shuttle service full-time. If not, then the College needs to seek other ways to curb student driving and protect the environment.

The Middlebury Campus

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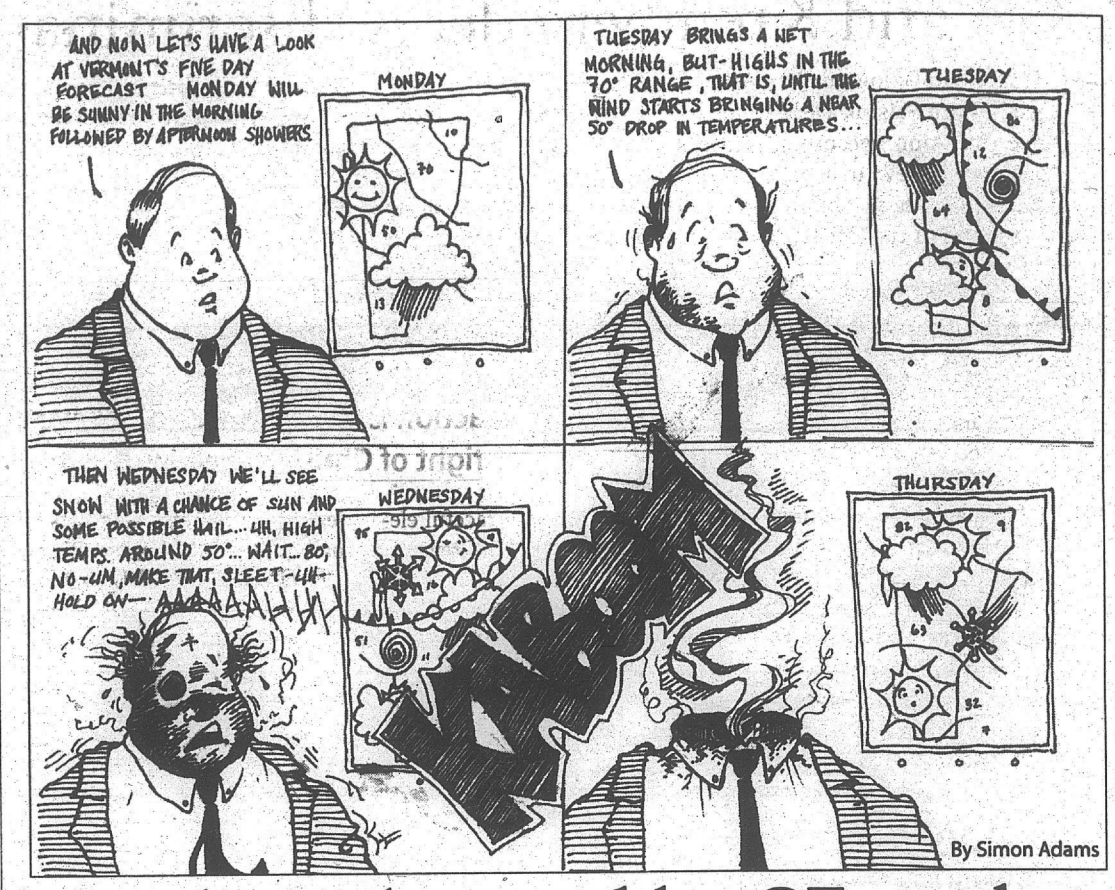
AND NOW LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT VERMONT'S FIVE DAY FORECAST MONDAY WILL BE SUNNY IN THE MORNING FOLLOWED BY AFTERNOON SHOWERS
MONDAY
TUESDAY BRINGS A NET MORNING, BUT HIGHS IN THE 70° RANGE, THAT IS, UNTIL THE WIND STARTS BRINGING A NEAR 50° DROP IN TEMPERATURES...
TUESDAY
THEN WEDNESDAY WE'LL SEE SNOW WITH A CHANCE OF SUN AND SOME POSSIBLE HAIL... UH, HIGH TEMPS. AROUND 50°... WAIT.. 80; NO-UM, MAKE THAT, SLEET-UH- HOLD ON—
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
By Simon Adams

Crockett alienated by CF rigidity

Heidi Crockett '02

Last week I attended a debate on the death penalty at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. One man, arguing against the penalty, spoke about his religious convictions. As a minister, he said he could not support something Jesus specifically taught against. He quoted the well-known story of the adulterous women and his admonition that "he who is without sin cast the first stone."Later on in the debate, a middle-aged women raised her fist at the man, declared herself a practicing, faithful Christian, quoted Numbers in the Old Testament and argued the Bible advocated the use of the death penalty. Last year, the woman's 16 year-old daughter was working at a fast food restaurant when a man entered the store, had the girl lie face down on the floor, then shot and killed her. With both these opposite viewpoints proclaiming alignment with "Christianity," I began to think about the two articles I read in last week's Campus about our Christian group at Middlebury.

I grew up in Oklahoma and was active in my church until I came to Middlebury last year. After a few months here, I drifted away from the Christian group because their beliefs didn't reflect my beliefs. I will openly admit, I often times felt alienated. Friends of mine claim similar experiences. Since I respect Christian Fellowship (CF) and Christianity, and because I know that what constitutes a "Christian" differs not only from region to region but between different denominations, I stopped attending CF and instead, attended a church in town and taught Sunday School there. Ryan's article has led me to speak candidly about my experience with CF. In writing, my aim is not to attack CF, but solely to voice a few observations.

I think back to those opposite stances on the death penalty. Then, I consider Daniel Perett's statement that Ryan wasn't allowed to run for leadership because in CF's eyes he didn't believe in the "unique divine inspiration and entire trustworthiness of the Bible." Reflecting on this and on my own experience with CF, I'm beginning to find CF's rigidity disconcerting. This is because when I think about Middlebury College--people from every state and countless countries— and then consider the fact that Christianity can differ so drastically from denomination to denomination, I've begun to think CF's stance doesn't fairly represent many students on the campus. In fact, I believe CF's firm stance on a number of issues alienates what could be a much wider group of Christians. At Middlebury, I have met more than a few people who considered themselves Christian but who didn't attend CF because they disagreed with the group. The fact that a number of students have feelings of discomfort and turn away from CF upsets me when I realize how rare it is that students bother to consider spirituality amidst the schedule of their daily lives at all. I consider Christianity, like other religions, valuable because it provides an opportunity to reflect on one's journey for truth. If this path is narrowed because of CF's stance, I want to point this fact out to people.

(see Crockett, page 11)

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Mary Hogan School thanks men's basketball team

On behalf of the Mary Hogan School students and staff I would like to offer special thanks to thirteen members of the Men's Basketball Team and five members of the Women's Hockey Team for volunteering their time at Mary Hogan School. During our celebration of I Love To Read Week, each player visited and read stories in the primary classrooms. Their visits were greeted with much enthusiasm (along with requests for autographs!), and they received kudos from both students and staff. It was wonderful for students to see that the heroes/heroines they see in the spotlight also read behind the scenes. A hearty thank-you to a wonderful group of volunteers!

Nancy Calcagni is Media Center Director at the Mary Hogan School.

Corrections

- Zach Tofias was misparaphrased in a March 8th article "Parking crunch necessitates discussions, solutions." The statement should have read "he hoped real tangible solutions would be considered."
- In last week's Opinions section the continuations of articles written by Jess Pasko and Ryan Palsrok were accidently switched. The *Campus* sincerely apologizes for the error.

Choi and Kremberg decry discrimination but support CF's rights

Danny Choi '01 &
Tyler Kremberg '03

The Christian Fellowship has denied Ryan Palsrok a leadership position because he is gay. While we believe that such an action is wrong, we also believe that it is the right of the Christian Fellowship to do so.

Let us explain. We are immediately reminded of the Hebrew word shibboleth. Israelis—God's chosen—were able to pronounce this word. Ephraimites—whom God had beef with—were not. And so, if you were wandering about the Middle East and the Israeli army stopped you, asked you to pronounce shibboleth, and you could not, then you were killed. If you could, the Israeli Army pulled your pants down and made sure you were circumcised. [See Judges 12:4-6]

Here is the point: discrimination is an integral component of every religion—we hardly need proof of this—shibboleth, jihads, auto-de-fe's, and banishing albinos because they are probably witches [this is (was?) common in Nigeria].

Religion is a wonderful thing. All of us have a spiritual side. And all of us need to believe in some kind of god, be it Jehovah, Allah, Zeus, Thor, Santa Claus, Isaac Newton, Mother Earth, Lennon, Lenin, Lincoln, Mao, a compassionate and graceful elephant, leprechauns, or J. Crew.

The Christian Fellowship has denied Ryan Palsrok a leadership position because he is gay. While we believe that such an action is wrong, we also believe it is the right of Christian Fellowship to do so.

However, no matter how wonderful religions are, they have a lot of idiosyncrasies that are not so good (e.g. Ephraimites are bad; kill them).

Our first impulse would be to forbid such stupidity (e.g. make it illegal to kill Ephraimites). However, we believe that this is the wrong approach. No matter how stupid the beliefs of a religion are, we must allow them to continue. Yes, discrimination is stupid, but we must allow it to continue because it is a constitutional right.

Yes, you heard us correctly - stupidity is a constitutional right.

If Christianity is correct, Gandhi is burning in Hell because he was never saved by the grace of Jesus of Nazareth. Gandhi's eternal suffering is a natural consequence of the fundamental beliefs of Christianity. In other words, as we stated earlier, all religions discriminate and we must allow them to discriminate if they are to continue. (Taking Gandhi out of Hell and putting him in Heaven directly disobeys Christianity.)

Freedom of Religion means worship with minimal government interference. Hence, the constitution mandates that we allow religions to continue as they will. In other words, we have no choice but to let Christians believe that Gandhi is wallowing in a pit of burning sulfur no matter how virtuous he was.

Hence, we believe that what the Christian Fellowship has done to Ryan is a moral outrage. However, it is the Christian Fellowship's complete right to do so. If Ryan is offended—if any homosexual is offended—too bad. The Christian Fellowship's discrimination of Ryan follows from a tradition of shibboleths, killing Hittites, stoning unfaithful wives and burning heretics. Any religion has the right to discriminate against anyone it wants, even homosexuals.

This is the take home message: as long as the Christian Fellowship keeps its hands to itself, it has a constitutional right to think bad thoughts about whomever it wants.

Moss examines gay rights arguments

It's been fascinating for me to observe the same-sex marriage debates and the Christian Fellowship controversy while teaching a course in Gay & Lesbian Studies. Many of the arguments used reflect the competing models of homosexuality that have been popular over the past century. One model sees sexuality as a spectrum with all people potentially capable of homosexual sex (Eve Sedgwick calls this the universalizing model). Talk about homosexual acts as a sin, about choice, about homosexual behavior or the gay "lifestyle" are predicated on the universalizing model. The other model sees homosexuals as a distinct group (Sedgwick calls this the minoritizing model). Civil rights arguments about minority status are usually based on the minoritizing model: gay people are born that way and we shouldn't discriminate.

Until the 19th Century, some scholars assert, "homosexual persons" did not exist as a class, and homosexual acts were a sin anyone could commit.

I'd like to point out two inconsistencies in the way these models have been used lately in Vermont and at Middlebury. People who talk about homosexuality being a choice (universalizing) usually want us to choose to be straight (or to become ex-gay). But the model also allows for straight people to choose to be gay. Do the opponents of same-sex marriage who talk about choice really believe they could choose gayness?

Interestingly enough, research has shown a strong correlation between homophobia and same-sex attraction, so it may not be an accident homophobes like this model.

Until the 19th Century, some scholars assert, "homosexual persons" did not exist as a class, and homosexual acts were a sin anyone could commit (universalizing). Now, however, the official Catholic position—like that of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, I think—is that "persons with a homosexual orientation" exist (minoritizing). Yet homosexual behavior is still a sin. Love the sinner hate the sin is based on two contradictory models of homosexuality.

Either it's a sin anyone can commit and there are no gay or straight people, or there are gay people (created that way), in which case homosexuality can't be a sin. You can't have it both ways.

Kevin Moss is a professor in the Russian Department.

Crystal praises the abroad experience

Crystal Ball

Jen Crystal '00

I had the good fortune to spend this spring break in parts of France. Okay, before you sigh that we should all be so lucky, let me add the very large disclaimer that it was only through the acquisition of a ticket voucher and the generous hospitality of a friend's French host family with whom I was able to stay that this trip was possible. That said, I fully acknowledge how truly fortunate I was to have been able to take this trip.

I was fortunate, of course, to spend a week in a foreign country. But more importantly, I was fortunate to be able to return to Paris, where I studied abroad for a semester last year, and to be given a comforting slice of the life I'd come to love there, serving as an immediate reminder for why I had studied abroad in the first place.

Walking around all my old haunts, I instantly and conveniently forgot the books and paper assignments that sat untouched in the bottom of my suitcase. Don't get me wrong; I certainly appreciate the incredible education we are getting here at Middlebury. But going abroad—or anywhere off-campus for a semester or more—reminds us that there is a world out there beyond Middlebury. Especially for us seniors on the brink of graduation, the real world becomes more and more of just that—reality—every day, as we move further away from the bubble of Middlebury to the world of jobs, graduate school, or whatever lies beyond our final spring here.

I could not be more thankful for the taste of this "bigger world" I was given by studying abroad. Living completely on your own, figuring out train schedules in another language, finding hundreds, even centuries-old sights everyday, are all experiences that can never be learned in a classroom or by reading a textbook. But beyond the geography, the language, and the cultural discoveries, I would say without a doubt that the most important factor in an off-campus study experience is the people. While we do boast of students from all over the world at Middlebury, nothing compares to actually living with and/or befriending people of another culture, to completely submerging yourself in another lifestyle. What better way to foster understanding and acceptance on a global level? I guarantee you these lessons cannot be learned in a Middlebury classroom.

I do not write this in a self-fulfilling sense. Rather, it is a way to implore everyone at Middlebury to take a semester or a year off and study off campus, to recognize everything that is out beyond Middlebury...

And I'm not just talking about meeting people from outside of Middlebury. I crossed paths with people from Middlebury on my study abroad program with whom I never would have crossed paths here on campus. I will carry the unique experiences I shared with them for the rest of my life. What an incredible loss it would have been to go through four years of Middlebury having never met them.

That's not to say I don't appreciate the experiences I've had here on campus, or the friends I've made here. Each has special meaning to me. But studying abroad expanded my circle far wider than I ever would have expected. I came back and suddenly it seemed there was a whole new world of people to meet. Suddenly whatever social barriers had been "established" before seemed ridiculously trite.

Coming back, of course, was difficult. I admit, more than once this fall, I wished I could have just stayed in Paris. But after this spring break, I understand why it is so important to return. Without Middlebury, we wouldn't be able to study abroad and have these experiences, and coming back this time I suddenly have a much greater appreciation for the foundation we are given here to jump off of into the "real world."

While in Paris last week I had the opportunity to catch the Middlebury Choir's outstanding performance at the American Church in Paris. I was pleasantly surprised at the turnout— Middlebury students and professors alike, both studying in Paris now and visiting on break, all came out to support their own. I realized then that Middlebury is our home, at least for these four years, and it offers us the base to go off and have these experiences, with the security that it will be there to come back to. Going back this week really grounded my whole dream-like study abroad experience in reality. For anyone who's wondering, Paris is still there. Life is still going on there and will be for some time, I'm assuming. So I no longer see the need to rush and go off to the "real world"—it's coming soon enough. Time at Middlebury, on the other hand, is all too quickly running out.

I do not write this in a self-fulfilling sense. Rather, it is a way to implore everyone at Middlebury to take a semester or a year off and study off-campus, to recognize everything that is out beyond Middlebury, and to gain an appreciation for our home base.

Gray disputes CF's position, calls for open elections

Kristen Gray '02

Daniel Perett claims, "If I, believing that homosexual acts are wrong, went to moqa and asked to be on their leadership, they would say no to me for the same reason that CF said no to Ryan." He is wrong.

For one thing, Perett would not be prevented from running for a leadership position within moqa, as Palsrok was for a position within Christian Fellowship. While it is unlikely that he would be elected to a leadership position within moqa, current moqa leadership would not suppress his candidacy.

This distinction is vital, as Palsrok argues that all members of the community must be allowed on the ballot, not that they all must be made leaders.

Also, there is a qualitative difference between Perett's hypothetical candidacy and Palsrok's. By Perett's own admission, "this [the belief that homosexual acts are wrong] isn't a central part of [CF's] message."

On the other hand, the belief that there is nothing wrong with homosexuality is one of moqa's main tenets. Moreover, I doubt any student organization is in the habit of electing non-members to leadership positions.

The situation Perett outlines is different in almost every way from the situation with CF. With Daniel Perett, moqa's general membership would not elect a candidate who is not a member of our organization and is hostile to our central beliefs.

With Ryan Palsrok, CF's leadership prevents an active, respected member who supports the group's tenets from even being considered for leadership by the general membership.

Kristen Gray wrote this article on behalf of moqa.

Irakly Areshidze takes issue with the Christian Fellowship's practices

Irakly Areshidze '00

I am writing to commend Ryan Palsrok '01 for his willingness to go through with challenging Christian Fellowship's blatant violations of College policy. Some members of the College community have known about this incident for a while, and many of us had hoped that Mr. Palsrok would be willing to challenge CF, notwithstanding the grave personal pain that such steps may bring. His actions are heroic, and for them, he deserves the regard and admiration of all members of our community.

As most who have heard me talk on this subject know, I am a conservative person when it comes to gay rights.

I, for example, oppose gay marriage, because I believe, as does the Supreme Court of the United States, that marriage is one of the fundamental building blocks of Western society and its role in the society should not violated (see Chief Justice Waite's opinion for the unanimous Court in Reynolds v. United States, 98 U.S. 145, where the Court rejected a First Amendment challenge to federal laws making bigamy a crime). However, CF's actions in this case have nothing to do with gay rights. Rather, what is at issue here is our right, as Middlebury College students who pay tuition and a Student Activities Fee, to participate in any organization which exists on campus. Because CF has violated rights of one student, it must either take steps to remedy its violations and ensure that such violations never happen again, or it must be shut down as an organization on this campus by the Constitution Committee of the SGA, which grants campus groups charters by which they exist on this campus.

Some may say that CF's actions are bigoted. Others wish to compare this case to a rejection of a black person from a group, or a leadership position in that group, which would certainly be unacceptable to most members of our community. CF, meanwhile, claims that its actions had nothing to do with the fact that Mr. Palsrok is gay, but rather with his views on homosexuality, which are not congruent with those of the group.

The fact is, however, that reasons for CF's actions have little relevance to this case. Whatever the cause, the group's actions are a violation of SGA policy. CF has violated the SGA rule, set our in the Finance Committee guidelines, that every organization which receives funding from the SGA must be open to all members of the community. CF, as its members admit in The Campus article which broke this story to the community, blatantly and with full knowledge violated this rule when it did not permit Mr. Palsrok to stand for leader in the organization. Whether this happened because Mr. Palsrok was gay, Muslim, Martian, or with green hair makes no difference. As a student at this College who pays an Activities Fee, he had the right to fully participate in any and all organizations approved by the SGA. No one required any member to vote for him, but the organization was obliged to grant him the opportunity to seek office.

I am writing to commend Ryan Palsrok '01 for his willingness to go through with challenging Christian Fellowship's blatant violations of college policy.

CF members argued that principles of religious freedom protect them from the SGA/Finance Committee policies. I would never deny an organization's religious liberty, principles that are at the root of the First Amendment. For example, I think the New Jersey Supreme Court ignored the meaning of the US Constitution when it ruled that the Boy Scouts cannot reject gay members simply because they are gay. However, the Boy Scouts, unlike CF, are a privately funded organization. CF, by receiving money from a pool to which Middlebury students collectively contribute, is no longer a private organization. Rather, it is a public group, which agrees to respect, honor, and uphold certain rules that come with the money that it receives.

CF and the SGA's Constitution Committee have only two options. First, CF can become an organization that abides by the policies that govern student organizations at Middlebury.

To do so, CF must sever all ties with InterVarsity and develop rules by which membership and leadership in the organization is open to all students who pay the Student Activities Fee. Should CF refuse, the only other option for the SGA's Constitution Committee is to revoke the organization's Constitution and prohibit the group from engaging in on campus activities. If this were to happen, CF could become a private group, with no relationship to the College or the SGA. In such a case, it will have to find its own sources of funding and its own places for meetings.

In return, the organization could set its own rules and discriminate not only against gays, but blacks, Orthodox Christians like myself, and Catholics too. Moving the religious organizations to a different form of funding, as is suggested in The Campus article, would solve none of these problems. So long as religious groups affiliate themselves with this institution, and receive funds from this institution, their freedoms are limited to what the institution finds acceptable. Middlebury, I am quite certain, would never find blatant discrimination against gays, or people who have positive views toward homosexuality, acceptable.

The College must also take some remedial steps. The Provost and the Dean of Faculty must immediately investigate if Mr. Dickerson, the Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science and the faculty advisor to CF, played any role in CF's violation of the SGA and College policies.

If he did, then Mr. Dickerson may very well be guilty of "abuse of authority as a teacher; actions that intimidate others or constitute a 'chilling effect' on the freedom of thought necessary in an academic community; behavior which fundamentally corrupts scholarship or teaching" (College Handbook, 157). Such a violation is grounds for termination of tenure.

Finally, it is necessary to comment on the five tenents that are at the core of the controversy. One of the tenents that a leader must agree to is "the unique divine inspiration and entire trustworthiness of the Bible."

I do not know how many of you have read the Book of Genesis recently, but I would point you to the very beginning of the first Biblical narrative.

This part of the Bible includes two different creation narratives which cannot necessarily be reconciled with one another. I would ask CF to tell me which one are we supposed to believe in "entire trustworthiness?"

Maybe the truth of the matter is that the Bible is not necessarily clear on many things, and simply going to it and saying "what do I do" is not enough. Maybe the Bible requires us to use some of our reason to make sense of its teaching and the teaching of God?

La Bolt claims mock presidential results not surprising

Benjamin La Bolt '03

Although the results of the Middlebury Mock Vote differed on the surface from the results of the primaries across the nation, based on the demographics of Middlebury College, our results are not at all surprising compared to the national standard.

Among Caucasian, upper-middle class, college educated voters, Bradley and McCain won handily over their opponents in the national election, although Bradley fared far better with males than he did with females. Middlebury's similar demographics make McCain's and Bradley's strong victories seem unsurprising.

The primaries seemed unusually competitive and important this year, fielding two insurgent candidates who questioned establishment politics and were able to mobilize a significant independent voter electorate. More Democrats than Republicans voted in the Michigan Republican Primary, a clear indication that independently minded candidates surpassed partisan politics in the eyes of the electorate. Although both McCain and Bradley ended up "losing," they made clear that independents and moderates will be the key voters in the upcoming election. In their unusually early post primary campaigning, Bush and Gore have started their rush to the center to attract these voters.

Both candidates are now relying on independent voters that propelled both McCain and Bradley in the primaries to win the election.

The primaries were furthermore a clear predictor of the course of the general election. The success of two insurgent candidates in challenging their parties' structures allowed the front-runners to redefine their campaigns. Bush, whose unlimited political connections and soft money contributions make him seem like the epitome of establishment politics, is now calling himself a "Reformer with Results." He has even spoken out against soft money, upon which his campaign is greatly dependent. The reform message is one rarely seen in GOP politics, but McCain's ability to mobilize independent voters in favor of the Republican Party has now become part of Bush's agenda. To win the presidency, Bush must receive the votes of these independents. Bradley's "untapped idealism" philosophy spoke to the Democrats who admire Kennedy-esque liberalism, and Gore adjusted his campaign to show that he could reach all Americans as well,and could find an economically feasible way of doing so. Furthermore, the unrelenting compromising of the Clinton era and doubt about the President's leadership potential was questioned by the Vice President himself.

Campaign finance is at the forefront of the two campaigns regardless of the fact that both will have trouble defending their own campaigning methods.

Campaign finance is at the forefront of the two campaigns regardless of the fact that both will have trouble defending their own campaigning methods. Both candidates bear reformer messages in which critiques of Clintonism are implicit. Both candidates are now relying on independent voters who propelled both McCain and Bradley in the primaries to win the election.

This campaign is a call to reform and idealism and will be marked with the shadow of Bradley and McCain, just as if they were still part of the election.

DeForest pokes fun at growth of corporate philosophies

Kate DeForest '03

As I was taking the train home for break about a week ago I came across an ad that affected my life's philosophy in no small way. From the glossy pages of Glamour (a high class magazine to be sure; I read it purely for the excellent journalism found within) I saw the words: "Don't have much of a personality? Buy one." So that was the answer! All those friendless years painting sad clowns on black velvet and writing poems to my cat could have been avoided completely had I only known. But what product, what miraculous balm, could soothe away my social awkwardness? My question would soon be answered, for smiling out from beneath that most profound slogan was a brand new Honda Civic sedan.

Were I a poet I surely would have written the said sedan an ode, glorifying its luscious purple hue and its stately reliability. I then noticed some more print to the side of personality-generating automobile: "Nothing says you're hip, fun, and 'with it' quite like owning the sporty Civic Sedan." Of course!

Someone should let the parents of the world in on the secret of bridging the widening generation gap chiseled out by technology and day care. I would, but my parents wouldn't understand; they're not "with it." I know they're not "with it" because they, and consequently I, drive a Ford Taurus wagon.

I saw the words: "Don't have much of a personality? Buy one." So that was the answer! All those friendless years painting sad clowns on black velvet and writing poems to my cat could have been avoided completely had I only known.

I would personally like to thank Honda for the impact (positive, I think) their advertising has had upon my life. No more black velvet paintings for me. From now on I'm going to dedicate my efforts to spreading the news on which Honda has so graciously enlightened me.

But why stop at Honda? The possibilities are endless. How many emotional wounds could be soothed by a North Face fleece? At least five, I think.

How many problems could a single Abercrombie t-shirt solve? Three at least, maybe four if it said "Abercrombie" across the front.

My point is this: it's a scary world out there and we should all be thankful for such visionary and socially conscious companies like Honda.

If you can't trust corporate America for spiritual guidance, who can you trust? So, as I lace up my Nikes and head out the door, "J.Crew" securely emblazoned across my chest, I'm grateful that I'm above the influence of media hype and brand names. I just agree with their company philosophies, that's all.

Dickerson elaborates on comments made in *Campus* news article

I would like to commend Emily Manning on a well-written article (March 15, 2000) dealing with the complex subject of the Christian Fellowship's belief on homosexuality. She did an admirable job talking with numerous people and gathering a variety of (contrasting) opinions. I imagine the work she did over the course of the preceding week exceeded that of any class assignments she had. By the nature of such an article, however, many of the quotes had to be given without the context of the interviews from which they were taken. (To have presented each quote in context, she would have had to devote an entire article to each interview.) In light of that, I feel a need to explain one particular comment that was quoted from me: "Every singing group on campus bases their entire membership on genetic abilities ...A student who doesn't have the natural ability to sing can't be a member."

The purpose of that comment was neither to trivialize the seriousness of the issue being addressed, nor to attack singing groups for their audition practices. There is, however, an important underlying concern that needs to be addressed. As I was quoted as saying, "Discrimination exists at every level of our community,"—and we don't necessarily consider it as bad. For example, the College as a whole bases its admissions decisions on the crassest of grounds: how intelligent one is. We discriminate against people who were born less academically gifted. Similarly, our sports teams cut the less gifted athletes from their rosters; they discriminate based on "physical disabilities."

The purpose of that comment was neither to trivialize the seriousness of the issue being addressed, nor to attack singing groups for their audition practicies.

Do these types of so-called "discrimination" have anything to do with the controversy surrounding the Christian Fellowship? Maybe. There are at least a few points worth considering. First, these decisions by the college admissions departments, the coaches, and the student singing groups--while they may not seem as important--can be big issues for those affected Ask a student who had their heart set on attending Middlebury College (or singing in a particular group, or playing on a particular team) and was denied admission whether they think it is a trivial issue in comparison with that of a student not given a leadership position because of his beliefs on homosexuality.

A second point that bears consideration is that these previously mentioned discriminations are far more complete than any action taken by the Christian Fellowship. If you are denied admission to Middlebury College, you're out!

By contrast, any Middlebury student—regardless of their beliefs—is welcome to participate in all regular CF activities (large group meetings, prayer, Bible studies). As for all CF-sponsored events funded through Student Activities (concerts, lectures, movies), these also are always open to the general public. The only place CF is taking the step of discernment about one's beliefs is with respect to the small group of leaders, who have a special role as spiritual mentors of the fellowship.

So back to my original point. I'm not condemning singing groups for selecting people based on auditions. It makes sense for a singing group to "discriminate" based on singing ability, just as it makes sense for an academic institute to "discriminate" based on academic ability; for a sports team to "discriminate" based on talent for that sport; ...and a religious group to "discriminate" based on religious beliefs.

Ask a student who had their heart set on attending Middlebury College (or singing in a particular group) and was denied admission whether they think it is a trivial issue.

Professor Dickerson is an Associate Professor in the Computer Science Department and faculty advisor to Christian Fellowship.

Crockett calls for exploration of spirituality

(continued from page 8)

So many issues are debated surrounding the Bible: abortion, the death penalty, who ultimately goes to "hell," homosexuality, and more. In my mind, if CF connects "entire trustworthiness to the Bible" with seeing homosexuality as sin, where do they stand on other issues? Does everyone in the group take the same stance on these issues? If someone doesn't take the same stance does that limit their ability to practice Christianity at Middlebury College?

I want the readers to understand, I'm writing this article out of a desire that people explore their spirituality more. I brought up CF because, as I outlined in this article from my observations, CF's path appears to block what could be more people exploring their spirituality. My intention is not to bring negative feelings toward CF. I respect CF. I know they participate in and host workshops, volunteer for numerous events, help many students in times of stress and pain, and much, much more.

In conclusion, I believe CF's stance on Christian issues, when different denominations possess conflicting stances, causes CF to not represent a wider range of Christians on campus. Ryan Palsrok serves as one example of

Bruggeman speaks from the political left

This week, Vice President Al Gore outlined a new plan for campaign finance reform. The plan is simple in design: banning soft money and the establishment of a trust fund to finance Congressional races. Gore has stated, and is demonstrating,

Nate Bruggeman '03

that campaign finance reform will be the center of his domestic agenda if elected president. Yet, immediately after outlining his plan and commitment, Republicans began attacking Gore from all fronts and angles, demonstrating once again their steadfast opposition to any meaningful campaign finance reform. While claiming that he abandoned his core domestic issues – education, the environment, Social Security, gun control and healthcare – the Republican establishment failed to recognize that Gore is in fact laying the foundation for a comprehensive domestic agenda.

From healthcare to gun control, we have seen meaningful legislation repeatedly die at the hands of powerful special interests groups and their money. Only by purging the electoral process of these derisive elements, can the country move forward and grow. The NRA, insurance companies, anti-regulatory groups and others have incredible control over members of Congress by contributing exorbitant amounts of campaign money, particularly in the form of unregulated soft money. Money still buys votes in the Beltway. By stripping them of their fiscal power, special interest groups lose the control and influence that they wield, thereby creating an equal playing field where the welfare of the public would decide a bill's fate, not the amount of money for or against it.

With little regard to the well being and desire of the general population, the GOP has blocked and thwarted any attempt to change the current system.

The change from the current system will be an arduous process. Republicans are dead set against any kind of change in the system, and as the Republicans pointed out, Vice President Gore is an 'imperfect messenger' for campaign finance reform. His self-admitted overzealous fund-raising practices during the '96 campaign season left him scarred, hurt, and an easy target to attack; however, it also has given him the opportunity to truly lead. Gore's mistakes hurt him deeply and embedded in him a deep desire to atone for what happened. By using his own transgressions as an example of a system gone astray, he can unite the people behind a common cause. Yes, an imperfect messenger, but a determined fighter ready to lead.

George W. Bush, on the other hand, decided to avoid the role of a leader and join the crowd of naysayers who contribute nothing in the struggle for change but criticism and obstructions. He and the rest of his cronies have yet to present a plan to bring about any type of significant reform.

Why? Republican success revolves around the almighty dollar and protecting those who have it.

With little regard to the well being and desire of the general population, the GOP has blocked and thwarted any attempt to change the current system.

Even when members of their own party highlight the need to change as Senator John McCain did, the Republican establishment balks at the idea.

As George W. Bush said when asked whether he learned anything from McCain and his quest, "No, not really."

From the left, I'm Nate Bruggeman.

Zelnick parodies second amendment extremism

One cold morning this past winter, I got my dog and drove a 4X4 out to the town of Scott, Arkansas to exercise my Constitutionally-granted Second Amendment right. I went to

Marc Zelnick '00.5

Scott because that is where the ducks are. As an avid hunter, I love me some guns like Delta loves them some flying, and the only thing that makes me madder than not getting to shoot things is Democrats. Listen to any political talk show on Radio AM, and you'll learn that guns don't kill people, death kills people. I can tell you that it's not the guns that kill fowl, squirrels, Bambi, and schoolchildren; but the steady arm and trained aim of the marksman. Guns can't kill. Have you ever see a gun pick itself up out of a God-fearing man's gunrack in his truck and go off and shoot an innocent citizen? You have? Super, which way to the Meth Lab?

As an avid hunter, I love me some guns like Delta loves them some flying, and the only thing that makes me madder than not getting to shoot things is Democrats.

And yet, Democrats everywhere are raising Cain over the lack of 'gun control.' They want to take away my Constitutional right to bear arms. They want safety locks, they want monitored sales, and they want fewer automatic weapons on the streets. They even want gun companies to start footing the bill for those killed, again, not by guns, but by steady arms and trained aims. Democrats are soft on crime because they're soft in the head. Rush is right and our president is a murdering socialist draft-dodging toker. And a lying cheat. So's her husband! I got that off a bumper sticker someone read to me.

As if the firearm industry had anything to do with deaths in America. The National Rifle Association and other educated people know better. Clinton is the reason we have murder in America. And the NRA can't be wrong, because they have Moses, who we know wasn't gay because he was in the Christian leadership. Our forefathers didn't die in all those wars we fought in Iraq for the Democrats to take away my guns. The died because someone with a steady arm and a trained aim hit them with a bullet or with an Afghan fighting rock or a German 'you vil nien ve valking here' landmine. They died for their flag, my freedoms, and Smith and Wessons with laser-guided shooting systems. Safe streets makes for weak progeny; veterans know these things.

Guns will not be controlled. Not on my watch anyways. Though if they ever were, we'd have funny looking drive-bys. And that would be something. And Charleton Heston might then ascend into the heaven for gun-toting senile Hollywoods, where he can play Magnum PI all day. Though he might not want to do that, because wings make a real man look like a sissy. Also, I would like to thank the editor of this fine paper for censoring me the past month or so. It has been a truly welcome reprieve, and this paper's reputation has no doubt soared in my absence.

May the journalism school which sends this guy an acceptance letter suffer pestilence, drought, famine, locusts, earthquakes, no birthday parties and maybe some of those creatures from Starship Troopers.

Finally, this past month, a favorite professor of ours thought about leaving this beautiful campus to lead a group of book-loving students a la Brasidas against their naval neighbors. This gave a number of us a fright the likes of which hasn't been felt since the airports threatened to take away duty-free liquor.

Thankfully his choice was to stay, and I can only guess that I had everything to do with his decision, and that the moment I graduate, he'll skip town for the good life like the one in Cuba. Of course, at the pace I'm failing classes, it's safe to say he'll be here to teach my kids when they come to college.

Lara Croft hates Williams and purchases dozens of OpSmile Middlebury T-shirts (size XXX-small) by calling X4277 to place her orders.

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

POPPY, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU – COULD I HAVE A WARDROBE AL-LOWANCE FOR MY WEB SHOW?
3-28
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE CLOTHES YOU AL-READY HAVE?
THEY'RE FINE, BUT I'M TRYING TO EN-HANCE PRODUCTION VALUES! PLEASE, DAD? JUST A FEW OUTFITS?
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE © 1999 G.B. Trudeau
WE'RE STILL LIVE, AREN'T WE?
YUP. OVER 3 MILLION PEOPLE ARE WONDERING HOW MUCH YOU LOVE ME!
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WE'RE GOING TO HAVE WORDS LATER, YOUNG LADY!
IS THIS A GREAT DAD? ISN'T HE THE BEST? HAND-SOME, TOO!
ALEX, I STILL DON'T GET THE WEB-CAM. ISN'T REAL LIFE A LITTLE RANDOM TO SUSTAIN AUDIENCE INTEREST?
NOT AT ALL! IT'S STORY ARCS THAT ARE BORING AND PREDICTABLE! RANDOM ROCKS!
3-29
RANDOM ROCKS? WELL, I GUESS IT'S FINALLY HAPPENED...
WHAT HAS, POPPY?
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YOU'VE FINALLY DISCOVERED PER-FORMANCE ART.
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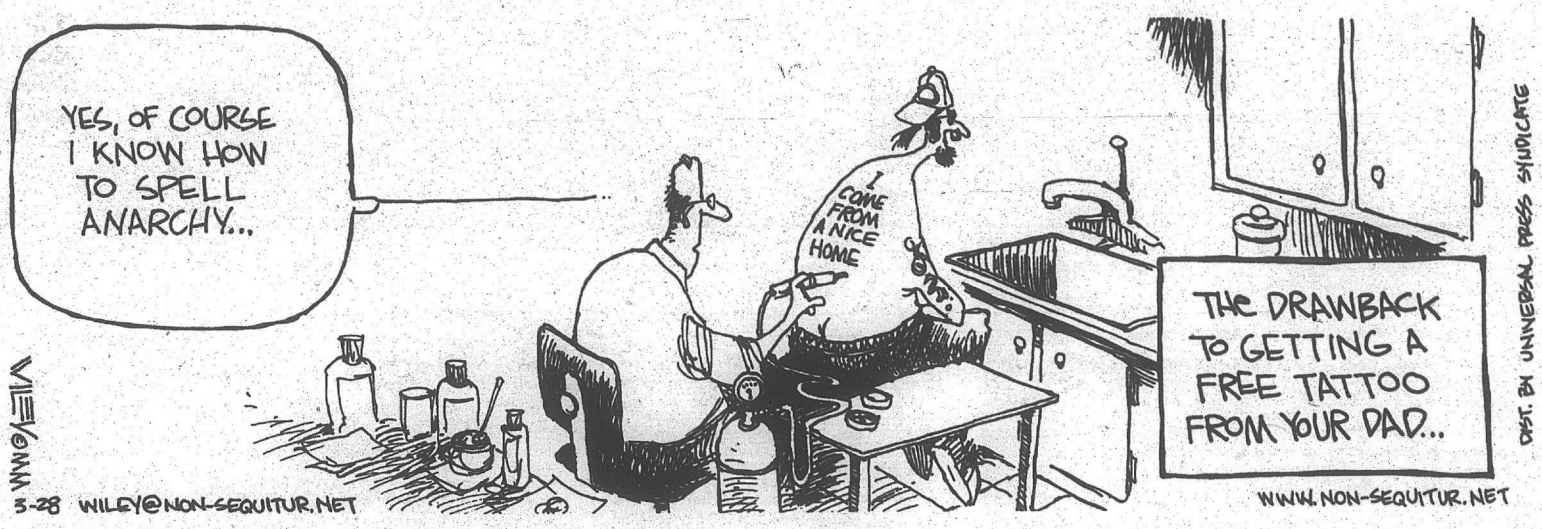
IT'S GENETIC, MAN!
I AM SO PROUD OF THIS KID!
OKAY. I'M START-ING MY MATH HOMEWORK NOW...
3-30
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE © 1999 G.B. Trudeau
OKAY, I FINISHED. I'M MOVING ON TO MY ENGLISH AS-SIGNMENT.
www.doonesbury.com
THIS IS PROGRAM-MING?
THE HOTTEST. SHE HAS FANS IN FINLAND.
TEN O'CLOCK, SWEETHEART – TIME FOR BED!
TEN O'CLOCK?...
3-31
HOLD ON, POPPY – I'VE GOT TO DO SOME-THING FIRST!
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE © 1999 G.B. Trudeau
"HAVING TROUBLE GETTING YOUR LINUX OPERATING SYS-TEM TO DRIVE PERIPHERALS? CALL RED CAP FOR ALL YOUR INTERFACE NEEDS! RED CAP – WHERE THE FUTURE IS NOW!"
www.doonesbury.com
YOU'RE SELLING ADS?
JUST IN PRIME TIME – I HAVE TO COVER MY NUT.
ALEX! I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU IT WAS LIGHTS OUT!
UH-OH...
SEVENTEEN
I'VE HAD IT WITH... OOPS.. THAT DAMN CAMERA'S ON, ISN'T IT?...
THAT'S OKAY, POPPY, DON'T CEN-SOR YOUR-SELF. KEEP YELLING AT ME.
SEVENTEEN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE © 1999 G.B. Trudeau
THAT'S ABSURD. I'M NOT GOING TO YELL AT YOU FOR THE BENEFIT OF...
THANKS A LOT, YOU BIG, STINKY, GARBAGE HEAD!
4-1
www.doonesbury.com
WHAT?!
GOOD, GOOD. NOW TURN TOWARD THE CAMERA.

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY


YES, OF COURSE I KNOW HOW TO SPELL ANARCHY...
I COME FROM A NICE HOME
THE DRAWBACK TO GETTING A FREE TATTOO FROM YOUR DAD..
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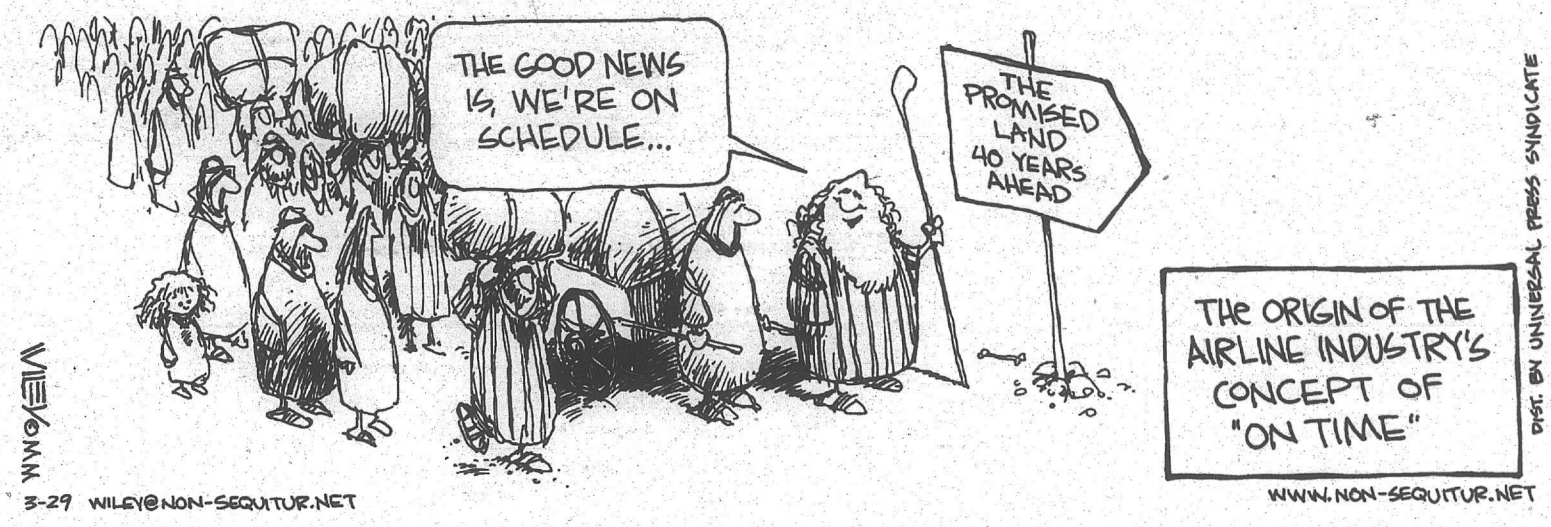
THE GOOD NEWS IS, WE'RE ON SCHEDULE...
THE PROMISED LAND 40 YEARS AHEAD
THE ORIGIN OF THE AIRLINE INDUSTRY'S CONCEPT OF "ON TIME"
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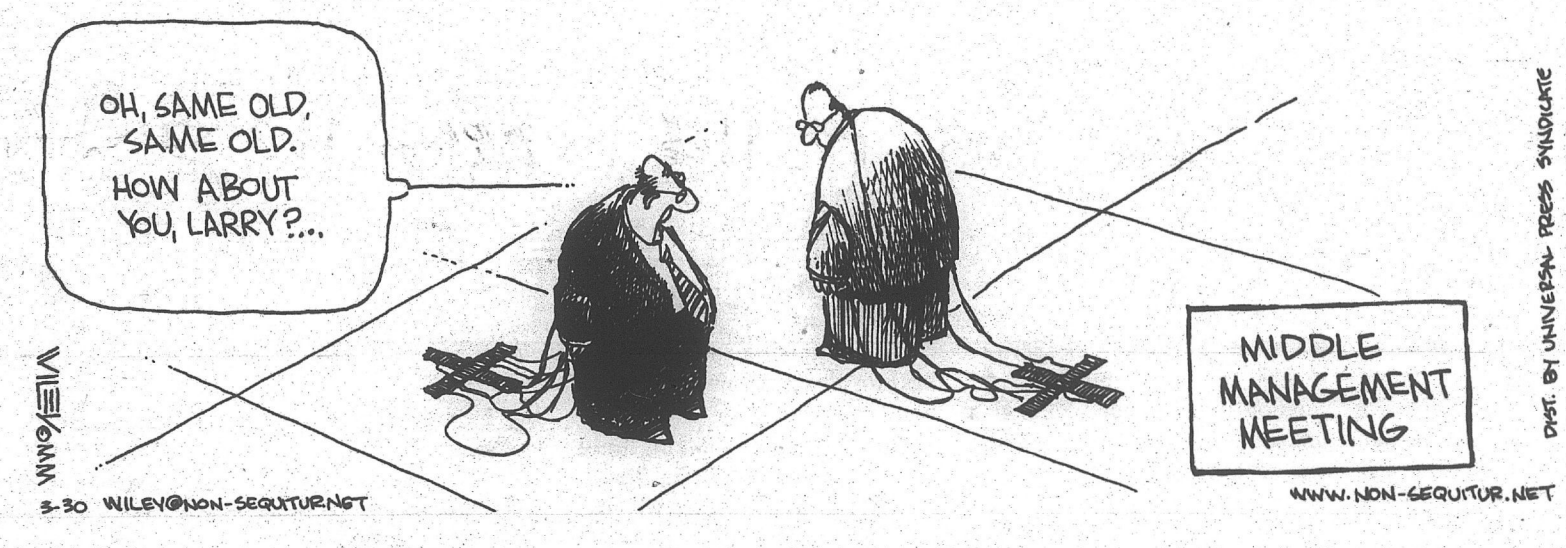

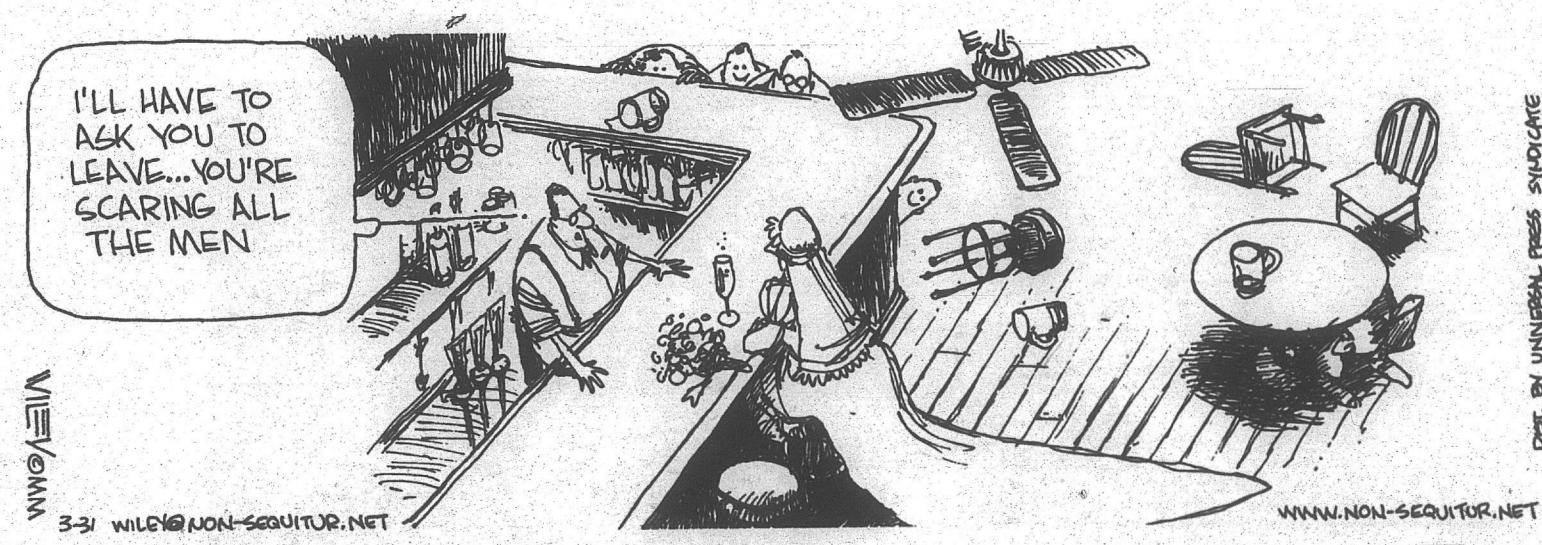
I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO LEAVE... YOU'RE SCARING ALL THE MEN
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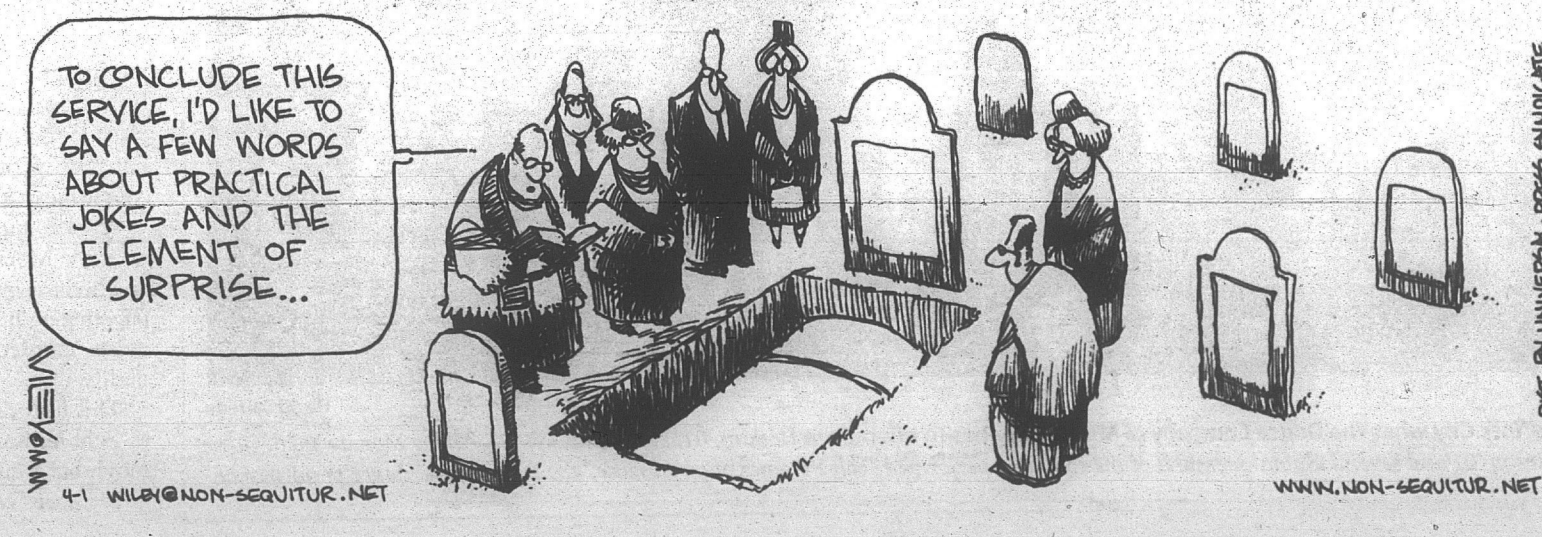
TO CONCLUDE THIS SERVICE, I'D LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT PRACTICAL JOKES AND THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE...
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The Clemmons Consort shows brilliant talent

By Elizabeth Logue
Staff Writer

Middlebury's Concert Hall was packed almost to its capacity with an energetic audience for a much anticipated concert by The Clemmons Consort on Wednesday, March 15. The program was a tribute to Aaron Copland and Samuel Barber, two composers recognized for a cycle of songs inspired by the poetry of Emily Dickinson, among others. Well known poetry by Dickinson, including "When they come back" and "Why do they shut me out of Heaven?" was part of the free concert. Mr. Clemmons describes Copland and Barber in the program notes as "men who seem to elevate the appreciation of poems and American 'folklore.'"

The Clemmons Consort consists of four talented and highly educated musicians. Francois Clemmons, the tenor, is Twilight Artist-in-residence here at Middlebury College. The musical accompaniment was provided by Sean Schulich, flute; Robert DiPietro, percussion; and Johannes Wallman, piano.

Without knowledge of these two great composers, it was difficult to appreciate the performance as a memoir. Instead I appreciated it as a brilliant performance of poetry and music.

Attracting a mostly adult audience from Middlebury and the surrounding towns, the concert drew only a handful of students, most of whom were students of Mr. Clemmons. The concert should have ideally been presented on a weekend, not right in the middle of midterm week, to attract a more diverse audience.

The poetry of Emily Dickinson was not lighthearted, but rather addressed death and the many stages of dying, journey to heaven, funerals, and resurrection. Because of the seriousness of the Dickinson poetry, Mr. Clemmons' psychedelic blazer, adorned with silver sequins and lots of neon colors, seemed a little inappropriate. Of course, it did elicit laughter from the audience, and Mr. Clemmons certainly did prove himself to be quite the comedian. The other musicians' presentation ranged from the casual khaki-clad flutist to a formally dressed pianist. Combined with Mr. Clemmons' disco blazer, the different attires seemed less than professional and even a bit distracting in the formal concert hall.

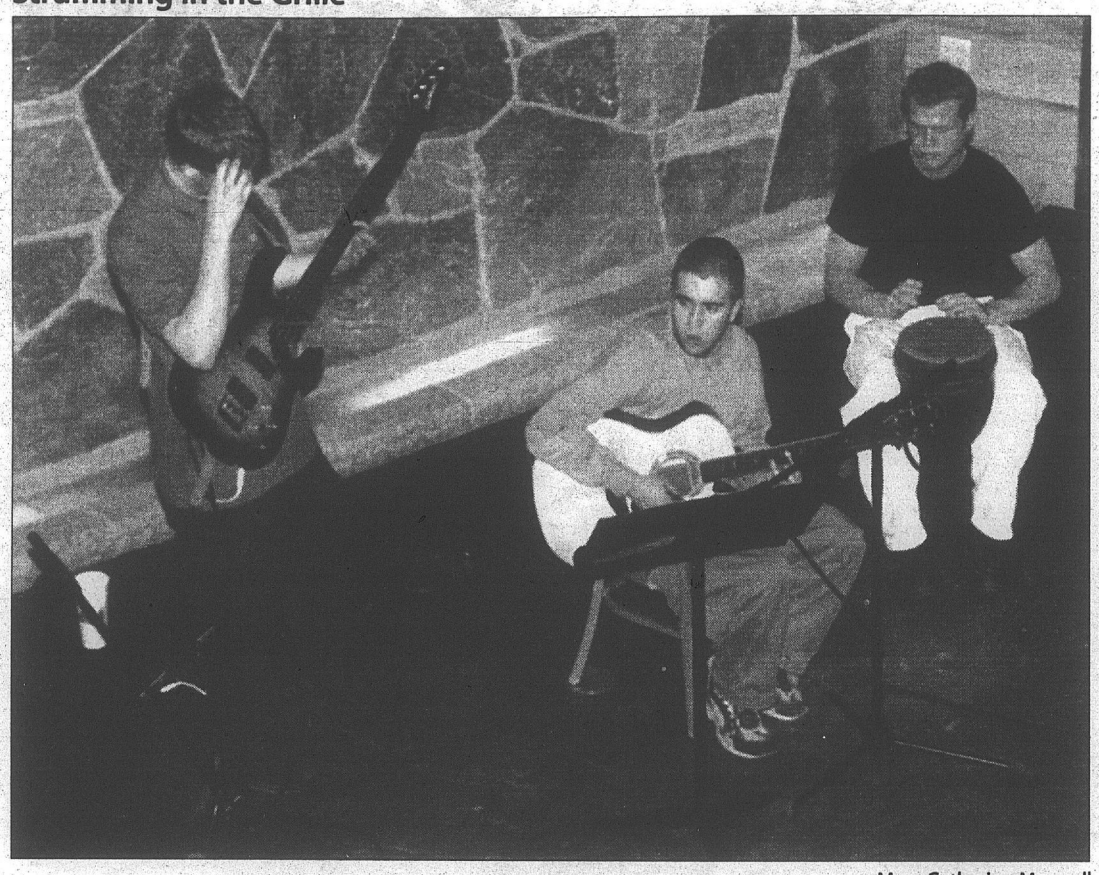
When the program began, however, Mr. Clemmons and the Consort's attire was soon forgotten, and The Clemmons Consort brought the powerful poetry of Emily Dickinson to life. Clemmons humbly admitted at the beginning of the program that he was in fact suffering from a case of laryngitis. Fortunately, his laryngitis did not really become noticeable until the conclusion of the concert.

The few cracks in Mr. Clemmons' voice came toward the end of the program, particularly in the final piece, "Knoxville: Summer of 1915," written by James Agee in the introduction to "A Death in the Family." These minor cracks were overshadowed, however, by the group's spectacular vocal and instrumental performance during the Dickinson poems. In fact, the collection of Dickinson poems ultimately would have been better placed at the end of the performance. The twenty-minute intermission that preceded Knoxville left some audience members, myself included, quite fidgety and eager for the concert to end.

For such a well-rehearsed performance, it was unfortunate that, while admission was free, there was hardly any publicity. This was overall a brilliant concert that certainly could have attracted more music and arts students. Francois Clemmons certainly showed his appreciation for the music of Barber and Copland. The performance accomplished just what the program was titled: "Remembering the Music of Barber and Copland." I only wish I could have heard the original performances of these two composers.

Clemmons places the two men on a high pedestal, and his respect for them was apparent from the program notes and his opening speech. However, without knowledge of these two great composers, it was difficult to appreciate the performance as a memoir. Instead, I appreciated it as a brilliant performance of poetry and music by The Clemmons Consort.

Strumming in the Grille



Mary Catherine Maxwell

Joined by friends on bass and drum, *Andrew McCoy '00 played an accoustic guitar concert in the Grille on Tuesday night. MCAB sponsors a series of weeknight concerts in the Grille featuring student musicians.*

"Nine Yards" exemplifies mediocrity

By Mike Goldstein
Staff Writer

The dilemma that I'm sure is on everyone's mind nowadays is that of what to do in the event that a Mafia hit-man decides to make himself their next-door neighbor. Fortunately for all of us, Jonathan Lynn has provided an answer in his latest film "The Whole Nine Yards."

Starring the ever-smirking Bruce Willis as Jimmy "The Tulip" Tudeski, a former mob hit-man who has testified against his boss, the film deals with his struggle to start over in Quebec suburbia. The film is set in my hometown of Montreal and manages to both glamorize and detract from the city with great efficiency, the former through the presence of Montreal's unique scenery and landmarks, and the latter through the exaggerated Canadian accents.

To add fuel to the fire, Oz (Matthew Perry) is a dentist married to Sophie (Rosanna Arquette), a French-Canadian haggard whose hatred for her husband leads her to seek out a series of hit-men to "rub him out." The only thing more pitiful than her plan is Rosanna Arquette's attempt at a French-Canadian accent. In what seems to be an attempt to combine plot lines, Sophie and Oz's new neighbor is none other than the aforementioned Tudeski who is quickly befriended by Oz and offered employment by Sophie.

Oz is struggling to dig himself out of a dreadful marriage and an unsuccessful career. His receptionist, Jill (Amanda Peet), seems to be his only friend and constantly encourages him to get rid of his wife who sees his death, and the consequent life insurance check, as his only value. Sophie manages to convince Oz to go to Chicago in order to rat Jimmy out to Janni (Kevin Pollak), the jailed mob boss' son, in hopes of collecting a finder's fee. It is in Chicago that the "action" begins as Oz is apprehended by Frankie Figs (Michael Clarke Duncan), one of Janni's henchmen, and taken to meet the boss himself. While at Janni's house, Oz meets the beautiful Cynthia (Natasha Henstridge), Jimmy's wife and a key piece to the recovery of a $10 million booty (and, by booty, I of course mean a treasure).

Frankie and a very nervous Oz return to Montreal by Janni's order and become involved in a rather interesting ending that is full of plot twists, murder, and let's not forget nudity.

This film can best be described as light humor. It is an enjoyable movie but is quite forgettable on the

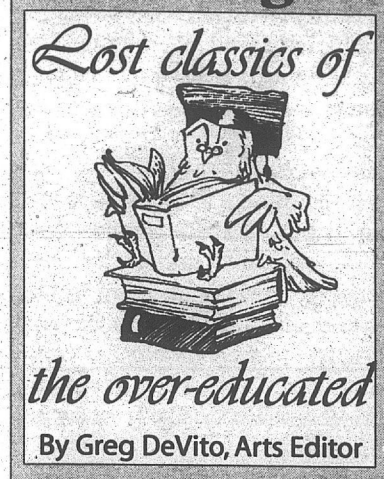
(see "Nine Yards," page 15)

Dancing in the Big Apple

David Barreda

Showing New York City what The Dance Company of Middlebury has to offer, *Sean Hoskins '01, Paul Matteson '00, Ashley Murray '00.5, Whitney Robinson '01 and several alumni members of the comapny performed "Felt Presence of an Absence," the Bicentennial dance performance.*

"McTeague" requires common sense



By Greg DeVito, Arts Editor

Throughout "Mcteague," Frank Norris adapts symbolism to serve as a tool for a more in-depth analysis of both character and plot. The traditional symbol depends entirely upon the imagination of the reader. However, Norris enlists symbols which require absolutely no imagination whatsoever.

Norris repeatedly associates certain characters with certain objects throughout the novel. This seems to suggest the necessity of imaginative interpretation. However, the symbols represent the goals and dreams of the characters rather than some sort of figurative idea or image. Therefore, the symbolism of "Mcteague" appears to contribute positively towards the Naturalist's attempts to quell imagination in favor of both observation and analysis.

While the middle tends to become a little slow, the ending, in both its almost uncanny randomness and excitement, makes the entire book worthwhile.

The character of Mcteague surrounds himself with two objects that define and shape his personality. A caged canary and a concertina represent Mcteague's past as a miner. The "canary bird, in its gilt cage" never leaves Mcteague's side throughout the entire novel. This symbolizes Mcteague's desire for stability and safety. However, this symbol requires no imagination. Mcteague's stoic protection of the canary clearly demonstrates that he naturally seeks to maintain a stable situation. The repeated observation of the canary leads the reader to suspect this tendency of Mcteague's.

The symbol of the concertina produces a similar effect. Mcteague always plays the "six lugubrious airs that he knew." This constant repetition creates an impression which implies ritual and custom. The continual bombardment of these relatively bland symbols merely constructs a more intense personality for Mcteague. The symbols which establish Mcteague's character appear as almost observation, which lead to an inevitable analysis of Mcteague's character.

The same holds true with several of the other characters.

The character of Maria Macapa develops almost entirely from her obsession with the "famous service of gold plate." These plates symbolize the driving motivation behind almost all of Maria's actions: greed. This symbolic meaning requires little imagination. Maria constantly discusses the gold plates. Likewise, she continually searches for various means of acquiring wealth. Therefore, by frequently mentioning the gold plates while describing Maria, Norris manages to maintain the Naturalism of the story. The symbolism remains akin to observation and analysis. He merely observes that Maria constantly pines over her lost fortune. The discussion of lost wealth represents an effect of Maria's greed rather than a cause. Thus, the symbolism serves to broaden one's understanding of the character rather than to hint at the potential of the character.

The dog Alexander seems to symbolize the character of Marcus Schouler. Marcus refers to the dog as "perfect" and as a "winner." He then discovers the pugnacious attitude of the dog. This serves only to increase Marcus' affection for the animal.

However, when the dog finally receives an opportunity to quarrel with his foe, he backs down. This causes Marcus to hate the dog. Clearly, this demonstrates the combative personality of Marcus Schouler. The dog appears "frantic with hate." This description fits Marcus perfectly when he encounters Mcteague throughout the novel. Marcus' choosing to surround himself with such a feisty beast suggests his own touchy character. This symbol, therefore, represents an observation which eventually leads to analysis.

The characters of both Old Grannis and Mrs. Baker also depend greatly upon symbolic language. Old Grannis and Mrs. Baker routinely "keep company." This act consists of Grannis toying with his "binding apparatus" while Baker makes tea in the adjoining room. The hobby of Mr. Grannis speaks volumes as to his character. He, much like Mcteague and Mrs. Baker, seeks routine and uneventful situations.

The idea of binding magazines clearly alludes to this character trait. Old Grannis seeks to bring order to disorder. His continual use of the binding apparatus evidences this characteristic. Mrs. Baker's ritualistic tea time produces a similar effect. The rooms themselves seem to symbolize the situation of the two elderly people. The room exists as one flat with a thin partition in the middle. This obviously represents the relationship of Old Grannis and Mrs. Baker. However, due to the literal nature of the symbol, it implies no more figurative meaning. The room symbolizes the relationship, yet it also is the relationship. The symbols which surround the old couple demonstrate their natures, not by means of imagination, but rather by means of observation.

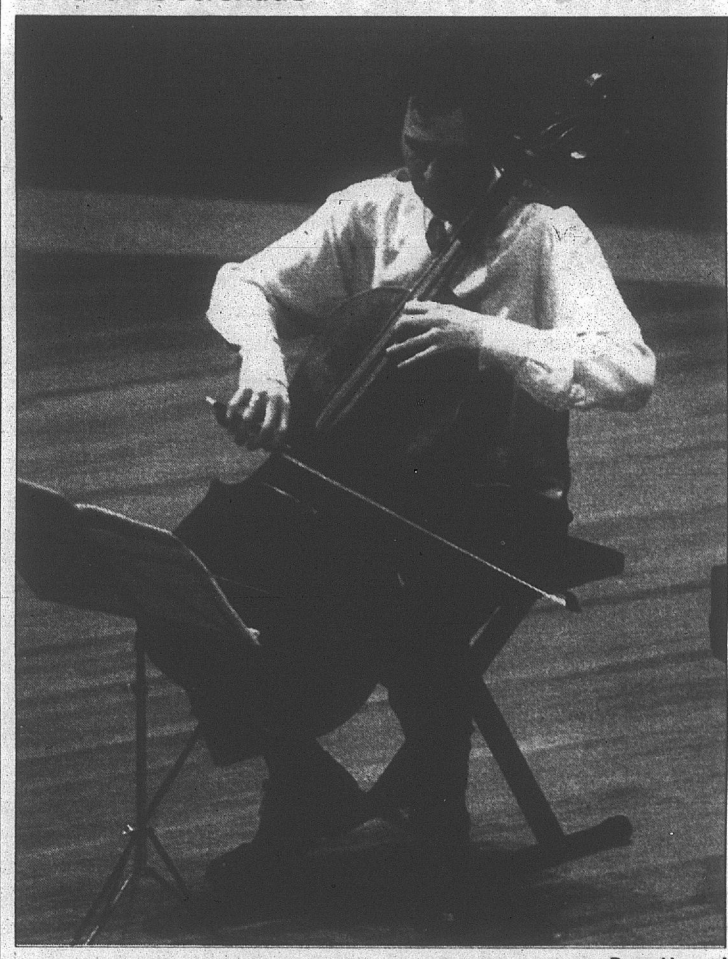
Symbols also serve to develop the plot. The symbol of the gilded tooth helps to foreshadow and develop the eventual catastrophe of the novel. The tooth represents Mcteague's "ambition, his dream." This appears to suggest the idea of success. However, for Mcteague the tooth does not represent the idea of success rather success itself. Therefore, when he receives the tooth as a gift from Trina, he revels in it with "delight and stupefaction." Mcteague treats the tooth as "something sacred."

The French gilt tooth implies not the idea of future success, but rather the bliss of success achieved. However, the tooth appears to dwarf Mcteague with its "monster" presence. This combines with the awe of Mcteague to imply an almost unholy aspect to the Tooth. When Mcteague finally loses the sign to his suave competitor, Trina remarks, "There's where our sign hung once." Understanding the importance of the sign to Mcteague, one cannot help but expect some sort of catastrophe resulting from its loss. Thus, the symbol of the French gilt tooth helps to further the plot by means of observation and analysis.

Despite frequent symbols throughout "Mcteague," Frank Norris manages to maintain the cohesion of his Naturalism. The symbols do not require imagination, rather simple analysis. In other words, the symbols throughout the novel represent not abstract ideas, but rather observation gained by means of common sense.

I would recommend McTeague to not just fans of Frank Norris and American Naturalism in general, but to anyone who enjoys to read a good story. While the middle tends to become a little slow, the ending, in both its almost uncanny randomness and excitement, makes the entire book worthwhile. How could you put down a book about a murderous dentist responding to animal instincts of flight and carrying a canary and concertina in the heat of Death Valley?

Lunchtime serenade



Peter Huoppi

Entertaining a noon-time crowd, *Cellist Yegor Dyachkov played selections from Beethoven and Stravinsky in the CFA on Tuesday.*

"Nine Yards" entertains audience and little else

(continued from page 14)

whole, due in part, I'm sure, to its TV-like feel. Matthew Perry's performance has no doubt lent a good deal to this non-cinematic sense, for after all, he basically brought his "Friends" character to the big screen under a different name.

The lighthearted style of the film's portrayal of mob murder is entertaining but has been seen before. The only novelty is Amanda Peet and her character Jill. Ironically, Ms. Peet is the star of the WB's television series "Jack and Jill," in which she plays Jack, a character much like Jill in "The Whole Nine Yards," but slightly more compulsive. Her on-screen performance, albeit limited, was good and hints at a possibly promising career for the young actress from New York City.

Despite this film being mildly entertaining, it should best be viewed in the comfort and safety of one's living room.

"The Whole Nine Yards" is following in the footsteps of previous Jonathan Lynn movies such as "My Cousin Vinny" and "Trial By Error" that together exploit the crisis-comedy genre and whose mediocrity provides unemployed filmmakers with hope. All in all, it can be said that despite this film being mildly entertaining, it should best be viewed in the comfort and safety of one's living room.

Rating: **.5

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Mingus offers freedom on classic live album

By Greg DeVito
Arts Editor

"At a time when Ornette Coleman's free jazz was just beginning to be heard and the avant-garde movement which would follow his example was still gestating, Mingus and his musicians, particularly Eric Dolphy, were proposing a brand of freedom built on black folk forms and the skeletal remains of popular song structures."
-Robert Palmer

Taken from the jacket of Charles Mingus' live album "Antibes '60," this quotation accurately summarizes the general tone of the work. Comprised of only 6 tunes, the album resonates with the freedom and experimentation of truly gifted musicians enjoying their craft.

Featuring Charles Mingus on bass, Ted Curson on trumpet, Eric Dolphy on alto sax, Booker Ervin on tenor sax and Dannie Richmond on drums, "Antibes '60" truly jumps and hops in what must have been a stellar performance. All of the tunes were written by Mingus himself, with the exception of "I'll Remember April" written by Gene DePaul, Pat Johnson and Don Raye. Each tune possesses a unique and interesting style. This makes "Antibes '60" an album that merits repeated listening.

Trust me, this album is perfect for lounging and drinking coffee just before a long night of essays and studying.

This album was my first foray into the wonderful world of jazz music. It most certainly did not disappoint. Both upbeat and mellow, "Antibes '60" is simply a jam session captured on tape. This type of music is just a cut above contemporary tunes. The skill level of the musicians becomes quite apparent after the first song on the album, "Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting." While appearing to be a relatively haphazard and disjointed rhythm, this tune gradually works itself into a complex and highly stylized composition. Moreover, it sounds great in the process!

This album was the first to inspire me to actually make an attempt to unravel the dialogue between musicians. Whether it be fast or slow, loud or soft, the music always contains wonderful conversations between the instruments and their respective musicians. This becomes strikingly evident during the final track, "Better Git Hit in Your Soul."

The tune begins with rapid and somewhat confused trumpets. As the song progresses, the trumpets begin to mimic each other, creating a wonderfully mellifluous rhythm. Throughout this exchange, the bass and drums slowly build and add to the overall intensity of the complex piece. This type of colorful and exciting composition makes "Antibes '60" an album of extreme skill and showmanship.

In the album jacket, Robert Palmer suggests that "there is nothing musty or archival about the music. It is a thoroughly contemporary listening experience, startlingly so at times, partly because of its intrinsic liveliness." Mr. Palmer could not be more dead-on in his appraisal of this album. I used to hear the jazz albums that my father and mother would listen to and scoff at their completely "uncool" musical tastes. However, as I age and learn more about music and jazz in particular, I begin to realize that my parents are pretty hip and stylish! I know, that is the most frightening thing anyone can ever discover.

I highly recommend "Antibes '60" to jazz fans and jazz novices alike. You will get hit in your soul by Mingus and his accompanying musicians. Trust me, this album is perfect for lounging and drinking coffee just before a long night of essays and studying. "Antibes '60" will open your eyes to a whole new world of music and expression. I would also encourage the purchase of other jazz albums by artist like Charles Mingus, such as Herbie Hancock. The world of jazz is just waiting to be explored.

Bud Powell Dannie Richmond, Booker Ervin, Ted Curson, Eric Dolphy
Mingus
Antibes 60
Charles Mingus, Bud Powell Dannie Richmond, Booker Erv
Courtesy Photo

Editor calls for courage and confidence

ArtWork of the Week

by Chat Ortved, Arts Editor

The column this week is inspired by, in an oblique sense, a work of art that likely none of you will ever see. However, this is not meant to be a review of a specific work but a description of the role and plight of that creative, critical and so often criticized being, the artist.

Two weeks ago, a play entitled "Beaver," by Claudia Dey, opened in Toronto. This will serve as an appropriate example. It sold out a number of shows and seemed to be doing quite well, showing promise for everyone involved. Then the reviews came out. Both major critics railed the play for similar reasons. The length needed to be cut; there was not enough tension; there was not enough plot. The critic for "The National Post" wrote, "in its present form, this play has no business being on a professional stage. Its writer, however, does." I feel a certain closeness to this situation: the playwright is my stepsister.

What is an artist to do when he or she lays his or her work before the ever-scrutinizing eyes of the public? A work of art is so often a reflection of the artist's consciousness, the artist's very soul. To have it cut down just as it rises can end a career, turn some serious talent back from whence it came and down the all-too-traveled roads of more accepting careers. The point is this: the artist must carry a courage and selflessness that is necessary in no other profession. The politician, too, is subject to the public eye, but let's face it, do these people show us their most private feelings the way the poet or painter must? No one but the artist has to bare himself to a crowd of strange and critical stares.

Melville's "Moby Dick," considered by some the "Great American Novel," emerged to terrible and devastating reviews. And yet he kept writing, whether or not he had an inkling of the greatness of his work. The initial review does not have to carry the meaning on which it seems to pride itself. Melville's "Bartleby," written after "Moby Dick," tells of a man who worked in the Office of Dead Letters, hopelessly sorting through writing that would never be read. While Melville may have then felt the futility, his art had no need. The artist must never consider him or herself a dead letter, doomed to pass unread, unseen, or uninterpreted. Art plays a deeply important role in society and culture, and, whatever the specifics of that role may be, the artists will remain at its hub. Melville should never have despaired, for he had the courage to show his mind to the world, and though it rejected him at first, it later took him in. Only those who keep their creativity hidden will pass, like Bartleby, as dead letters.

Know that, whether or not the critics interpret it well or accept it as worthy of praise, the most important thing is that it be allowed to play its role.

And so I say this to all you emerging artists, and this may or may not serve as a shameless plug for my column: Have the courage and confidence to not just allow the public a glimpse of your work, but brandish it before them. Know that, whether or not the critics interpret it well or accept it as worthy of praise, the most important thing is that it be allowed to play its role. And it may be salient to remember that critics even create a forum for part of that role to be played, providing places of exposure in newspapers and magazines.

Looking back at civilization, it is the artists that we remember, not the critics. In the end, while the critic may have the power of influence, it is you that possess the power to evoke catharsis and, eventually, real and meaningful change.

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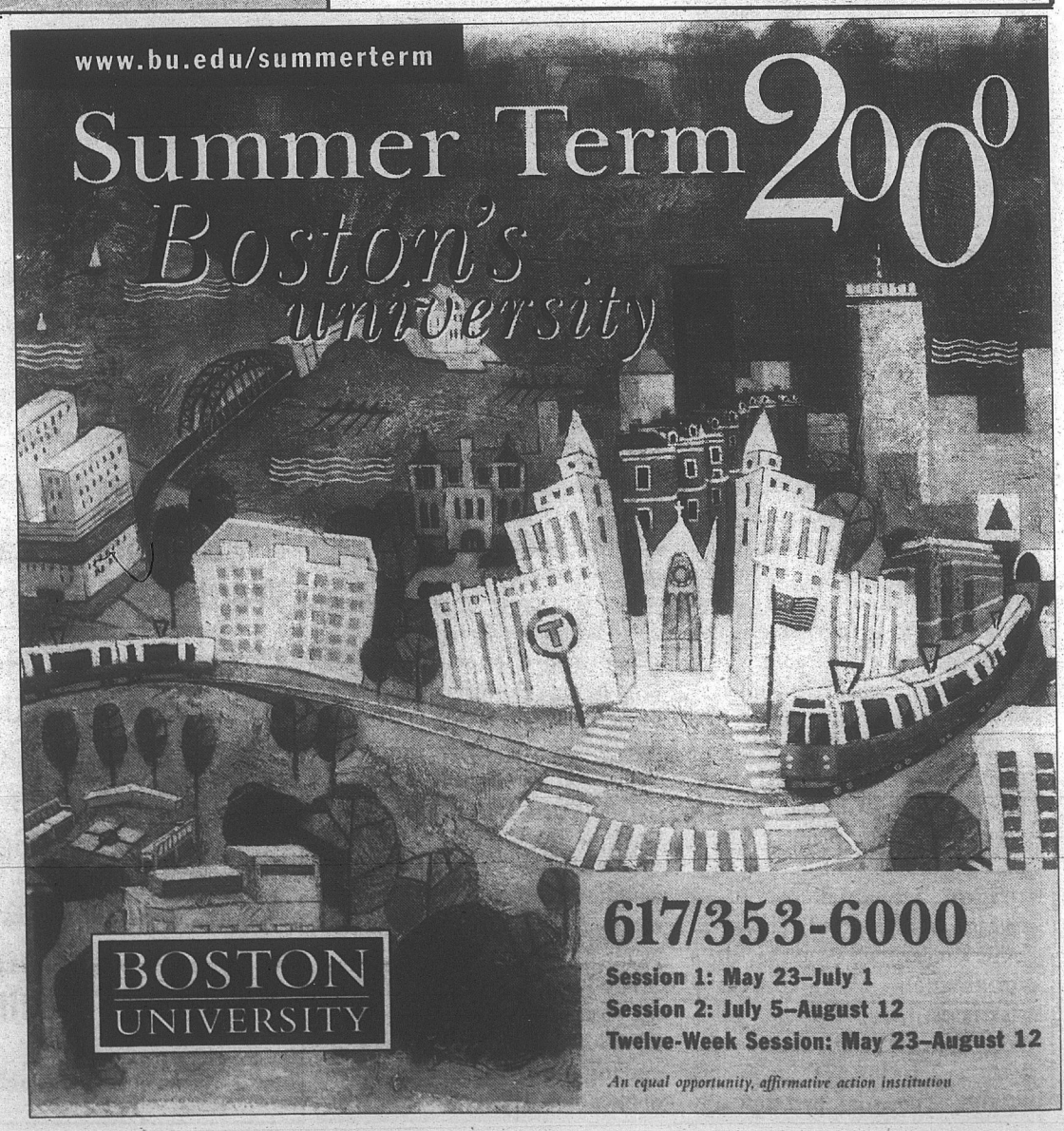


What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
Features Editor

I'd like to start off my column this week with an apology for missing last week's column. (In other words, this apology is for those who actually read it. Hi, Mom! Hi, Dad!) You see, shortly before the paper came out, I was stricken with a serious cold. Only when I had it, I could only pronounce it as "code," fer I wus vewy congestid at da time. Unable to do anything in my condition, I was unfortunately relegated to bed, where I watched Simpson's reruns.

However, the fact that I was too sick to write two weeks ago (Notice I included every version of the sound "too"), is actually probably for the better, because I had been planning on providing you with my thoughts on the presidential primaries, and I can do that right now.

Actually, I don't have any. All I know is that, according to the *Campus* poll, somewhere around 90 percent of you are ticked off that the former hoops star dropped out. And for the one percent rooting for Alan Keyes, apparently he received stronger support in the recent Russian election won by former-spy turned-softie Vladimir Putin.

So, now that I've said all I have to say on the primaries, while remaining unbiased (Notice I did not speak of Gore's vices, nor did I mention any of Bush's attributes) I can now concentrate on the primary subject, that of vacation. (Ten bucks to anyone who can find the pun in the last sentence.)

Vacation can be (it certainly should be) a relaxing seven days, but that is not always true. Especially if you enjoy flying as much as Monica Lewinsky enjoys food.... Wait a second, that made no sense.

O.K. Especially if you enjoy flying as much as Monica Lewinsky enjoys dieting.

I never used to dislike flying when I was younger, but that was before I grew older and lost my ability to accept things easily. You see, there comes a point in every young person's life when it becomes clear as to whether they are more of a math and science freak, or a philosophy and English weirdo. There is, of course, a third path, that of the dolt who finds nothing of interest in life. Such people are responsible for the ideas behind many math and science freaks' inventions, such as the remote control and the ab machine that excercises your abs while you eat popcorn.

Occasionally, a dolt will fool everyone into thinking he's quite clever and will gain celebrity. Eventually, however, the gimmick will wear off, and people will be left considering the fact that an incredibly well trained parrot could perhaps do the same job. Regis Philbin and his show "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" fit this category very well. (And the parrot says: "Squawk! Is that your final answer? Squawk!")

Getting back to the point, while some of my good buddies grew in-

(see Student, page 19)

Students devote time to local Fire Department

By Jon White
Staff Writer

Every hour of the day, every day of the week, five Middlebury students go to class, to meals, and to bed knowing they may be called any minute to assist the Middlebury Fire Department.

They are already living the "on-call" life to which the pre-med contingent here at Middlebury aspires. These five students, Feb-senior Jason Oleet, juniors Andy Klein, Chris Paul, and Ben Pratt, as well as sophomore Kim Guion, have joined the Middlebury Fire Department as volunteers.

Pratt has been with the department for over a year, the longest of the five student volunteers. Middlebury graduate Andy McBeth helped encourage Pratt in his decision to get involved, as did his father and grandfather's firefighting backgrounds. Middlebury alumnus McBeth served with the Fire Department while studying at Middlebury.

For "real-life" experience, all volunteers spend one weekend a month in simulation drills at compounds in Pittsford and at other sites in Addison County.

For Oleet, encouragement came from his desire to give back to the community both in the town of Middlebury and at the college. While he mentioned that time was a bit of a deterrent for getting involved, he said that he "admired the commitment of folks in town" and that he "loves the college and wanted to help."

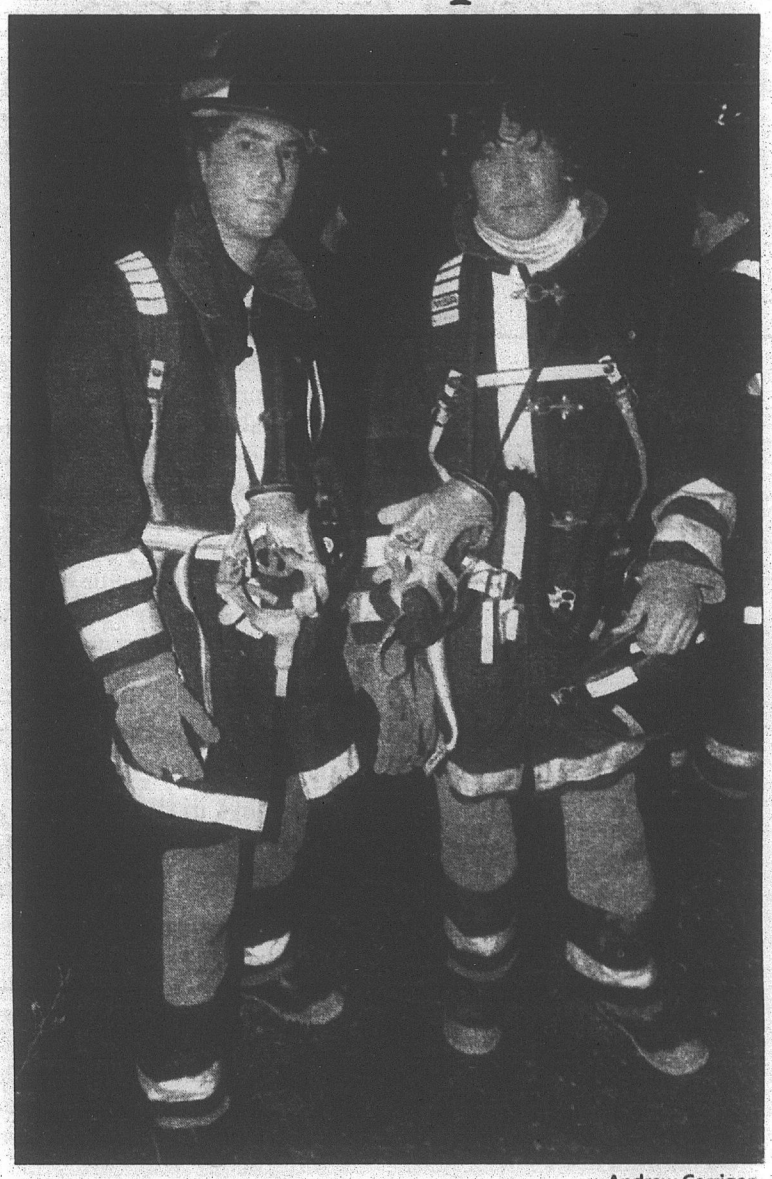
These five students participated in a 110-hour training course in order to receive firefighter certification. There are different levels of certification beginning with designation as "Firefighter 1." After completing the 110-hour course, these students will have three out of five credits towards their Firefighter 1 certification. The course is based on a national syllabus, and, while the student volunteers will receive certification in Vermont, their credits can also be used towards certification in other states.

In addition to being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the students attend three hours of class a week devoted to fulfilling the 110-hour course. The students must also commit to several hours of homework in preparation for the class.

For "real-life" experience, all volunteers spend one weekend a month in simulation drills at compounds in Pittsford and at other sites in Addison County. Pratt said that this coming weekend's drills include a burning trailer. These weekends are also designed to condition the volunteers with drills involving such tasks as running up and down stairs in full uniform.

In the town of Middlebury, as well as in all departments in Addison County, members serve on a volunteer basis. The various departments in the county work together to form a support network of men and equipment.

According to sophomore volunteer Kim Guion, Middlebury's fire department is extremely well respected among the fire departments in the state of Vermont. Guion cites the consistently high response from volunteers in Middlebury to all calls as a critical component of the department's excellent reputation.



Andrew Corrigan

Juniors Andy Klein and Ben Pratt assist the Middlebury Fire Department.

In an interview Wednesday, Guion praised the "fraternity" among the volunteers at Middlebury's fire department. She also said that the department has been an inspiration, as its members demonstrate an excellent work ethic and genuine friendliness.

Pratt and Oleet mentioned that their entrance to the department has been well received by the other volunteers. All three students spoke of the interaction with

(see Local, page 19)

Vermont Long Trail celebrates ninetieth birthday

By Bob Wainwright
Features Editor

On Saturday, March 11, the Vermont Long Trail celebrated its 90th birthday. It was 90 years ago that 23 men gathered in Burlington with the intention of founding the Green Mountain Club, (GMC), to, "make the Vermont mountains play a larger part in the life of the people, to encourage mountain climbing, to make trails, build shelters and aid in the preparation of maps and guidebooks."

Out of this club was born the Long Trail, a 445-mile-long trail system, including 175 miles of side trails and more than 70 campsites. It was the first long-distance hiking trail in the nation and the inspiration for the Appalachian Trail.

Since its inception in 1910, thousands of people have worked hard clearing trails and building shelters in order to ensure the trail's preservation. Today, more than 500 volunteers help protect and maintain the trail, and as of the end of last year, 2,405 people had certifiably hiked the trail from end to end.

Courtesy of Middlebury Outdoor Orientation

Every year, many hikers use the Long Trail to access Vermont's wilderness.

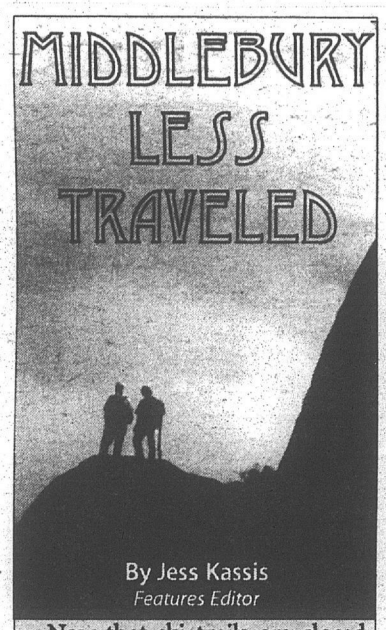
In 1986, the GMC started the Long Trail Protection Campaign with the purpose of acquiring land where the Long Trail crossed private territory in northern Vermont. Over the past 14 years, the campaign has protected 18,546 acres with 50 miles of Long Trail and 14 miles of side trail. The land also serves as the habitat for black bear, moose, songbirds and many other forms of wildlife. The effort continues today, because 15.5 miles remain unprotected.

In the 90 years since the founding of Long Trail, the beauty has remained its hallmark. The history itself is a full one, however, with many changes involved. While the first edition of the guidebook was printed in 1917, costing 50 cents, the Long Trail was officially completed in 1931 by UVM Professors Charles Doll and Phillips Carleton, who cut the last 10 miles from Jay Peak to Canada.

With the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, Americans became increasingly interested in their environment. Perhaps that is why 800 people hiked the entire trail that decade, as opposed to the 350 who had made the trip in the previous 60 years. While that number dropped in the eighties, this past decade brought more hikers than ever to the Green Mountains. For almost everyone who has made the trip end-to-end, it has been a life-enhancing experience. The letters sent to the GMC by hikers contain mostly heartfelt gratitude for having been given the opportunity to enjoy nature in such magnificence.

In 1972, Barry Cruikshank wrote, "Highlights of the trip: The light through the trees as you reach the summit—any summit." In 1980, after finishing his first of three trips on the trail, Mark Caroll wrote "I spent the night on the trail at Shooting Star Shelter. Laying on a large flat rock, I watched the moon rise above the black silhouette of a nearby mountain. The air was clean and cool, the sky filled with stars."

It is reassuring to know that the Long Trail has continued to thrive into the 21st century, and there is little to block the possibility of another 2,000 hikers from making the trip in the near future. As the Long Trail enters the last decade before its centennial, it might be a good idea to see it for yourself. More than 8,500 people from around the country support the GMC today, and new members are always welcome. As Executive Director of the GMC Ben Rose explained, "The Long Trail is literally and figuratively the spine of Vermont."



By Jess Kassis
Features Editor

Now that ski trails are closed, why not motivate to do some rock-climbing in the area. The following locations have been selected from "Exploring the Landscape: An Educational Outdoor Guide to the Middlebury Area" (Boyd, Esposito, Gault, Huoppi, Kautz, Leach and Wall). Students can pick up copies of this book at all commons offices, student activities, the mountain club office and Farrell House.

SMUGGLER'S NOTCH AREA: This area north of Stowe is a popular skiing spot in the winter, but provides excellent climbing opportunities year round. There's heaps of bouldering on schist faces off the side of the road and a few nice rock routes on Elephant's Head Butress. The climbs are fairly obvious from Notch Road. Directions: Take Rt. 7 North to I-89 in S. Burlington. I-89 South to exit 10 for Rt. 100. In the town of Stowe find Notch Rd. (Rt. 108)leading North to Smuggler's Notch. This is about an hour and a half away.

KEENE VALLEY, NEW YORK: This spectacular scenic area offers the best place to climb within an hour's drive. Top-rope and multi-pitch lead routes range from 5.3 to 5.12 on nice Anthrocite cliffs. Chapel Pond Canyon and the Bierwalls are the most popular spots. For more specific information consult the Guide to climbing in the Adirondacks (Dan Mellor, 1995). Directions: Go West on Rt. 125 until Rt. 22A intersection. Take a right and soon after a left to rejoin 125 West. Cross the Champlain Bridge and at the intersection with 22 and 9N take a right into Port Henry. Continue on 9N through Westport and Elizabethtown until reaching Rt. 73. Take a left on Rt. 73 to Keene Valley and look for roadside parking areas. All trails lead to cliffs suitable for climbing.

LAKE DUNMORE CLIFFS: This nearby climbing area above the shimmering lake offers unobstructed views west to the Adirondacks and south down the Green Mountain Range. Climbing opportunities include a few moderate top-ropes and leads of 50 to 100 ft. The routes range from 5.3 to 5.7. Be sure to bring plenty of webbing or other anchor material as the trees are ofset from the cliff edge. Directions: Drive 7 miles south of Midd on Rt. 7, then 3.6 miles south on Rt. 53 to the entrance to the park on the right. Use the trail above the falls and cross the river towards the lake. Continue a short distance west until you reach the cliffs along the ridge edge

Electric bus provides alternative transportation

By Eric Skovsted
Staff Writer

Beginning this Monday, Middlebury students, faculty and staff will have a new option to consider when contemplating a cross-campus journey. From April 3 through April 14, an electric bus will provide quick, easy and environmentally sound transportation.

The electric bus, brought to Middlebury by the College's Environmental Council, will run week-days in the morning and afternoon along a route which includes both central and more distant-campus facilities.

The bus and the shuttle services it provides for the two-week period are both experimental in nature. The trial run is designed to gauge interest and promote discussion regarding a future permanent campus shuttle system while simultaneously testing the capabilities of an electrically powered vehicle in the notoriously hilly Middlebury terrain.

The electric bus, brought to Middlebury by the College's Environmental Council, will run week-days in the morning and afternoon along a route which includes both central and more distant campus facilities.

Amy Seif, the College's Environmental Coordinator, and one of the principal individuals responsible for bringing the bus to Middlebury, hopes the test period will assist the college administration in making future transportation decisions. She noted, "If Middlebury proceeds with planned construction, more peripheral parking will create a potential need for a shuttle."

It was Seif who first initiated the idea of an electric campus shuttle. Using the College's previous experience with the electric truck and the association with E-Vermont as a jumping off point, Seif and Eric Skovsted explored the possibility of bringing the state's lone electric bus to Middlebury.

The idea quickly found support within the parking-deprived, environmentally-active college community, and numerous individuals and services assisted in the coordination of the project. When the bus arrives on Monday, it will be the result of the combined efforts of Facilities Management, the College administration, student government, E-Vermont and the Environmental Council.

Active participation by students, faculty and staff is the final step to ensure a successful test period, so numerous incentives will be offered to encourage participation.

Ross Commons generously provided funds for donuts, cookies and cider, which will be available on the bus mornings and afternoons. Riders will also have the opportunity to earn a free dinner to the Storm Café. The prize will be given to the person who rides the bus most often. To be eligible for the dinner simply pick up a punch card on the bus, have the driver punch it each time you ride, and turn the punch card in to Seif at 214 Sunderland.

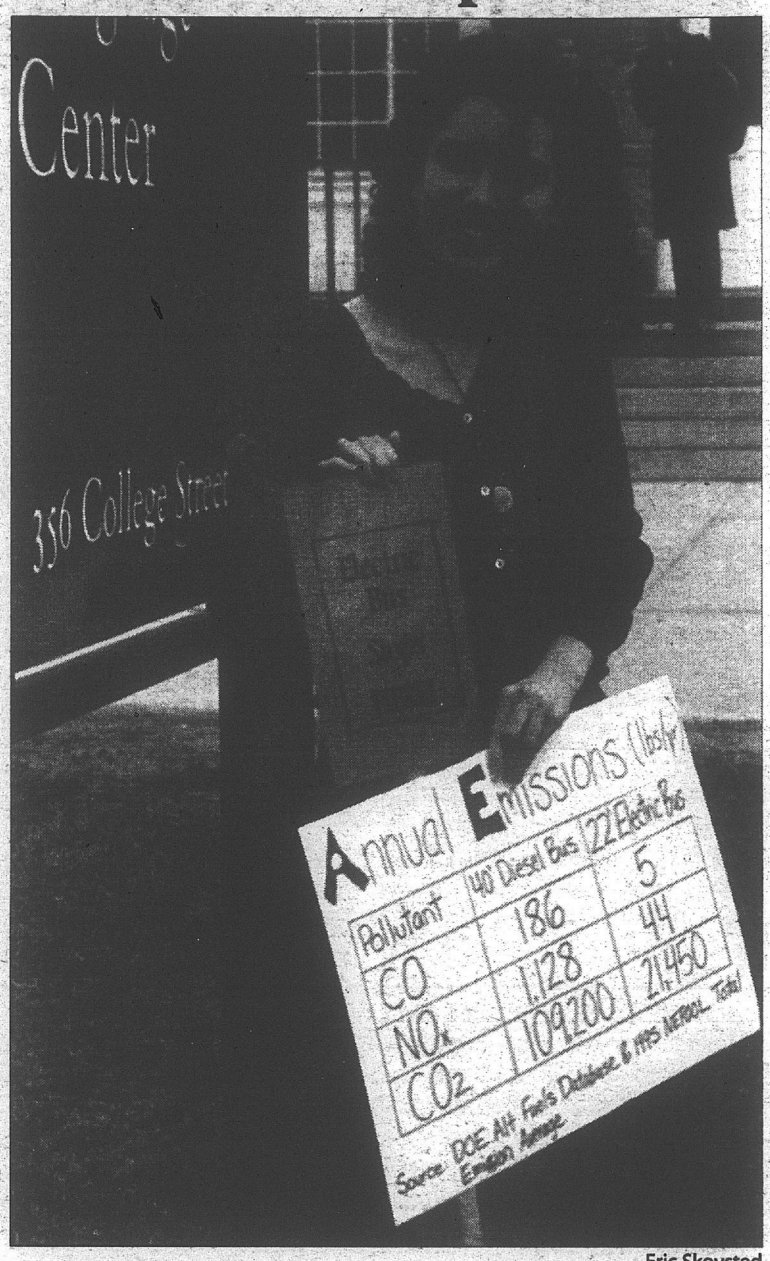
However, even with the incentives, Seif does not anticipate that ridership during the test period will be an accurate representation of true campus interest in the bus. "Two weeks is a short time to judge the effectiveness of a shuttle service," she said. "It takes at least two weeks for people to warm up to the idea."

Another potential glitch in the success of the test period is the age of the bus. The bus, borrowed from Rutland's Marble Valley Transit does not represent the latest in electric vehicle technology. Equipped with lead-acid batteries, the bus performs at a lower level than newer models outfitted with the lighter, longer-lasting nickel-metal-hydride batteries. Such batteries can result in a 500 percent increase in range.

The limited range of the bus, combined with the fact that the entire shuttle system will be supported by one vehicle, made designing a practical route extremely difficult.

The Environmental Council, Student Government, Community Council and several other individuals from the college community contributed input which resulted in the current route. Numerous sacrifices were made to achieve an end product designed to provide the greatest possible service to the majority of students, faculty and staff.

However, the inherent weaknesses of an electric shuttle are far outweighed by its benefits. The bus is, after all, a zero-emission vehicle that runs far more efficiently than a traditional diesel bus. While emissions are produced in the generation of the electricity used to power the bus at coal burning power plants, they are negligible, and alternative methods of generating electricity exist.



Eric Skovsted
Environmental Coordinator Amy Seif promotes the upcoming electric bus.

As gas prices continue to rise, there is genuine economic incentive to abandon personal vehicles. During the next two weeks the Middlebury community can do just that. They can even treat themselves to a donut or two in the process.

Bus stops will be identified by red signs posted in front of the buildings included in the route.

Schedules have been mailed to all students and faculty and will also be posted inside the buildings at each bus stop.

Additional schedules are available in the mailroom. The bus will run in both the mornings and the afternoons, stopping at Bicentennial, Ridgeline, Proctor St. and College Rd., Sunderland, Twilight,

A Little Taste of Reality

By Lisa Engelstein
Staff Writer

Chow on This:

The following is excerpted from Gloria Steinem's "If Men Could Menstruate."

What would happen if suddenly, magically, men could menstruate and women did not? The answer is clear: menstruation would become an enviable, boast-worthy, masculine event.

Men would brag about how long and how much. Young boys would talk about it as the envied beginning of manhood. Gifts, religious ceremonies, family dinners, and stag parties would mark the day.

To prevent monthly work loss among the powerful, Congress would fund a National Institute of Dysmenorrhea. Doctors would research little about heart attacks, but everything about cramps.

Sanitary supplies would be federally funded and free. Some men would still pay for the prestige of commercial brands such as Paul Newman Tampons, Muhammed Ali's Rope-a-Dope Pads, John Wayne Maxi Pads, and Joe Namath Jock Shields-"For Those Light Bachelor Days."

Generals, right-wing politicians, and religious fundamentalists would cite "men-struation" as proof that only men could serve God and country in combat ("You have to give blood to take blood"), occupy high political office ("Can women be properly fierce without a monthly cycle governed by the planet Mars?"), be priests, ministers, God Himself ("He gave this blood for our sins"), or rabbis ("Without a monthly purge of impurities, women are unclean").

Street guys would invent slang ("He's a three-pad man") and "give fives" on the corner with some exchange like "Man, you are lookin' good!" "Yeah, man, I'm on the rag!"

TV shows would treat the subject openly. (Happy Days: Richie and Potsie try to convince Fonzie that he is still "The Fonz," though he has missed two periods in a row. Hill Street Blues: The whole Precinct hits the same cycle.) And movies. (Newman and Redford in Blood Brothers!)

Men would convince women that sex was more pleasurable at "that time of the month."

Of course, intellectuals would offer the most moral and logical arguments. Without that biological gift for measuring the cycles of the moon and planets, how could a woman master any discipline that demanded a sense of time, space, mathematics,or the ability to measure anything at all? In philosophy and religion, how could women compensate for being disconnected from the rhythm of the universe? Or for their lack of symbolic death and resurrection every month?

Liberal males in every field would be kind to women. The fact that "these people" have no gift for measuring life, the liberals would explain, should be punishment enough.

Our Digestion:

Although menstruation may be unnerving or offensive to some, we must question such feelings. Why are so many people uncomfortable and embarrassed by discussing this topic? Is there something inherently wrong with talking about menstruation, or are we just told that?

Although many claim that women broke through the glass ceiling long ago and that our society no longer experiences gender inequalities, Steinem's excerpt reverses gender roles and demonstrates how different our world would be if men menstruated. Thus, we must examine practices common to our society in order to determine their equality status.

For example, while most insurance companies cover Viagra, the majority do not cover birth control pills for pregnancy prevention. The pill is covered, however, for 'real' medical conditions, such as cramps and acne. We should ask ourselves why women aren't given the same freedom with regards to reproductive control and sexual freedom?

At first, the notion of men menstruating seems ridiculous. But in order to critically look at gender relations in our society, we must reverse the gendered roles and see if things still look as absurd.

More food for thought: Steinem wrote this piece over twenty years ago. How much have things changed and what is preventing further change?

Student ponders the joys of flying

(continued from page 17)

creasingly interested in math, I decided to quit after I was done with factoring, hence becoming a philosophy and English weirdo. So, while my best friend ponders the scientific aspect of whether time exists, I am left with the reality that it is four a.m., and my paper on African history has not been translated from my mind to paper. In fact, it hasn't even been translated from the text to my mind!

So, when I fly, I board the plane with the knowledge of F. Scott Fitzgerald's drinking problem but without the basic principles of physics. At 40,000 feet, my best friend will tell you that the plane flies because the speed of air is faster under the wing then over it, allowing it to remain at its present height.

Meanwhile, at 40,000 feet, I will tell you that what you are basically witnessing is a big hunk of metal in the middle of air. I will then likely follow that up with the proposition: "Have you ever held a hunk of metal in your hand, and then let go of it? Did it fly?"

Usually, an on-board movie is the one thing that can settle my stomach and make me forget the fact that I, a person with just under a four-inch vertical, have been off the ground for nearly an hour. But, the cinematic doesn't work when that movie is "The Blair Witch Project!"

For those of you who have not yet seen it (about .5 percent of the population), this low-budget movie documents the scary things that happen to three high-school kids who went into the woods without enough cigarettes, not to mention a tripod.

Basically, the constant waving of the hand-held camera creates a scary atmosphere for the first five minutes and a motion-sickness atmosphere for the remaining hour and a quarter.

It is not what a guy who doesn't like planes wants to watch in a plane. As for the on-ground aspects of vacation, they could not have been more enjoyable. At one point, I even thought I might have to take a car back, when U.S. Air's flight attendants were threatening to strike. (Apparently, federal regulations require that a drink and snack be served on all flights.)

When the strike didn't pan out, however, I boarded the planes along with everyone else, and even kept my breakfast concealed from those in front of me. Needless to say, once the crying had finally subsided, I was very proud of myself.

Local Fire Department benefits from volunteers

(continued from page 17)

members of the Middlebury town community as a major perk of their job. Guion specifically mentioned forming contacts with the town community as an important factor in her decision to join the department.

Oleet said of his experience at the Middlebury Fire Department, that "A different kind of learning goes on when working as a group and helping others than in [an academic] class."

When Pratt and Oleet both said they were as likely to spend their free time hanging out with members from the department as they would hanging out with other students, their comments emphasized the camaraderie these students feel with the other volunteers.

Pratt said that although the Middlebury Fire Department is satisfied with the current number of volunteers and is not actively seeking new members, he would not discourage a first-year or sophomore student from volunteering, as long as they were truly interested. For now, however, the college community can be proud that the five student volunteers represent the most students ever to be working for the Middlebury Fire Department.

CAMPUS VOICES

If you were running for president, what would be your campaign platform?

Compiled by Bob Wainwright

Photos by Andrew Corrigan

"I'd storm the sunny shores of Spain."

— James Dunseith '03

"What's a campaign platform?"

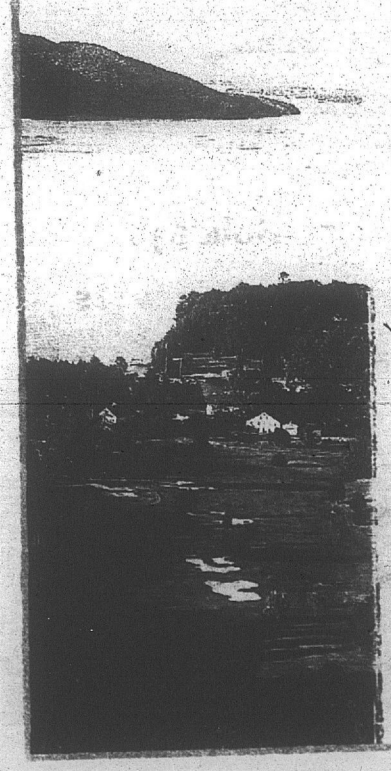
—Kate Lord '02

"My welfare program would be to have a Macys on every corner."

— Kate Pentkowski '03

"Six-foot long by two-foot wide."

— Justin Kingson '02



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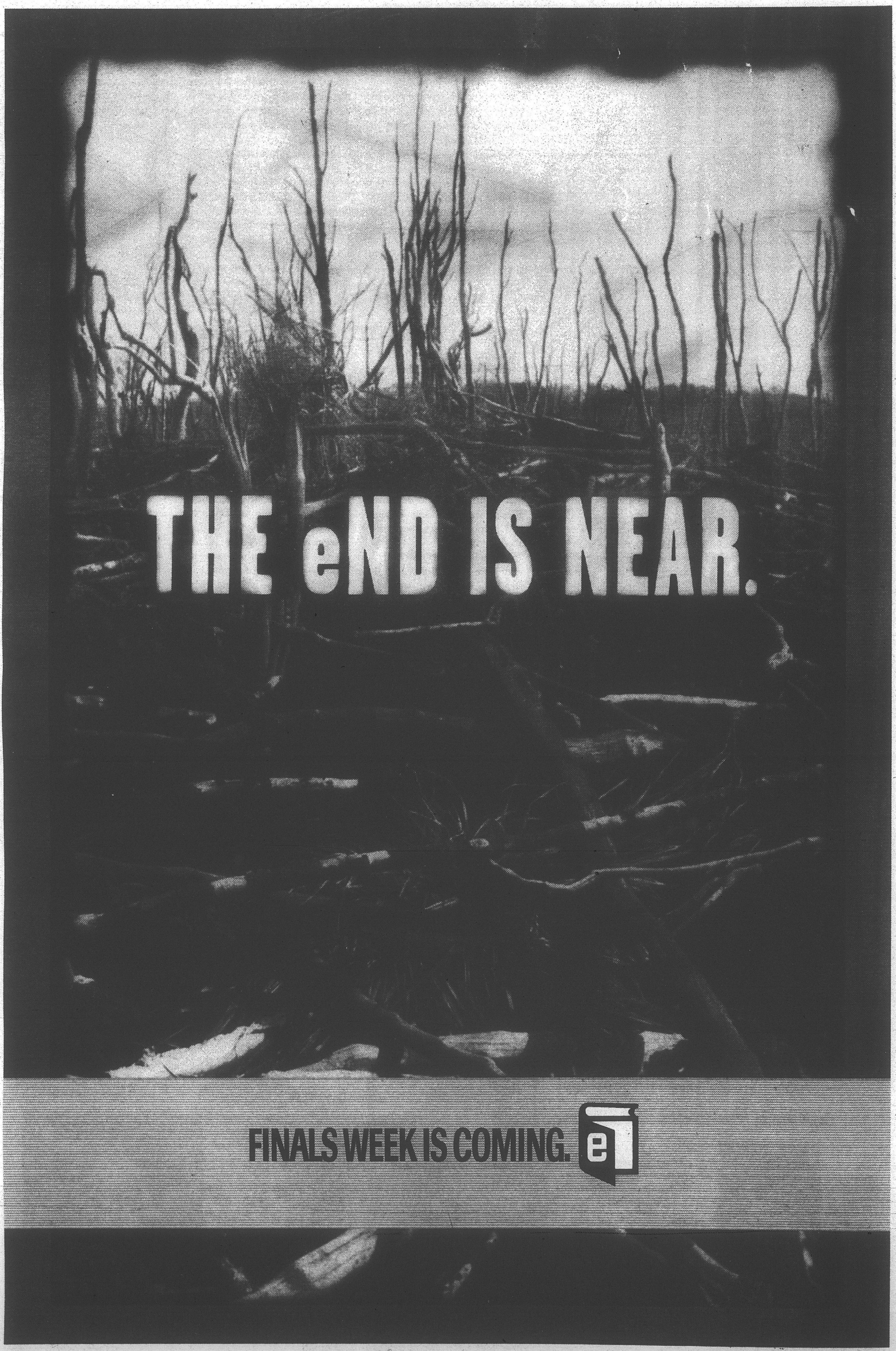

THE eND IS NEAR.
FINALS WEEK IS COMING.

Men's and women's tennis opens season in Hilton Head, S.C.

By Matt Rymzo
Assistant Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's and women's tennis teams began their spring seasons this past week with five matches in Hilton Head, South Carolina. The men's team, coming off a convincing win against St. Michael's College before spring break, compiled a 2-3 record in Hilton Head, while the women's team had an impressive 3-2 record.

Under the leadership of new assistant coach Andrew Chamura, a young and talented men's team, consisting of eight first-years opened with an impressive 5-2 victory over NESCAC rival Connecticut College.

Matt Dougherty '02 and John Hugo '02, relying on their pinpoint returns and aggressive style, set the pace at one doubles with an 8-4 win, while first-years Steve Hulce and Rick Jamgochian, playing like seasoned veterans, had little trouble at two and five singles, frustrating their opponents with penetrating groundstrokes.

The following two non-league matches against St. Thomas of Minnesota and Salisbury State proved to be the toughest, as the Panthers fell 4-3 and 5-2. Going into singles play against St. Thomas, momentum seemed to be in the Panthers' favor as number two doubles, consisting of junior captain Matt Rymzo and Steve Hulce '03.5, rallied from three match points down winning 9-7 in a tie-breaker to secure the doubles point for Middlebury.

However, St. Thomas turned the tide in singles winning four out of the six matches. After relinquishing their first doubles point of the week, Middlebury could not seem to refocus in singles as Hulce and Rymzo combined for the only victories in singles against a talented and deep Salisbury State team from Maryland.

Now that I've gotten a chance to see them under pressure situations. ...I can work on those aspects of their game in practice.
—Assistant coach Andrew Chamura

The men finished up the week splitting two league matches against Colby and Trinity. Relying on their strength, Middlebury swept the doubles against Colby as Charlie Leonard '03 and Bob Wainwright '03 set the tone with an impressive 8-6 victory at third doubles.

The momentum carried into singles play as number two Steve Hulce '03.5 and number three Matt Dougherty '03, using a combination of patience and persistence, both rallied from a set down to win in three sets and secure a 5-2 overall win. A smart and experienced Trinity team dashed Middlebury's hopes of coming home with a winning record. With Hulce out of the lineup with an injury, a depleted Middlebury team nearly pulled out the doubles point, as Wainwright and Leonard rallied from 7-4 down at third doubles to force a tie-break, but failed to convert on two match points, losing 9-7 in the tie-break. Rymzo proved to be the only bright spot in singles as Trinity's experience proved too much for the Panthers in singles as they lost five out of six singles matches en route to a 6-1 loss, leaving them with a 3-3 overall record heading into April.

Our strength lies in our youth and depth. ...Young players seem to play with less fear and thrive on the pressure.
—Kyle Wheale '02

Assistant coach Andrew Chamura was excited about the team's play over break and commented, "Now that I've gotten a chance to see them under pressure situations and observe what breaks down, I can work on those aspects of their game in practice."

The Panthers hope their practice pays off as they take on Amherst at home this Saturday and Williams away on Tuesday.

The Middlebury women's team, consisting of all first-years and sophomores, refused to let their youth and inexperience deny them a successful trip in Hilton Head.

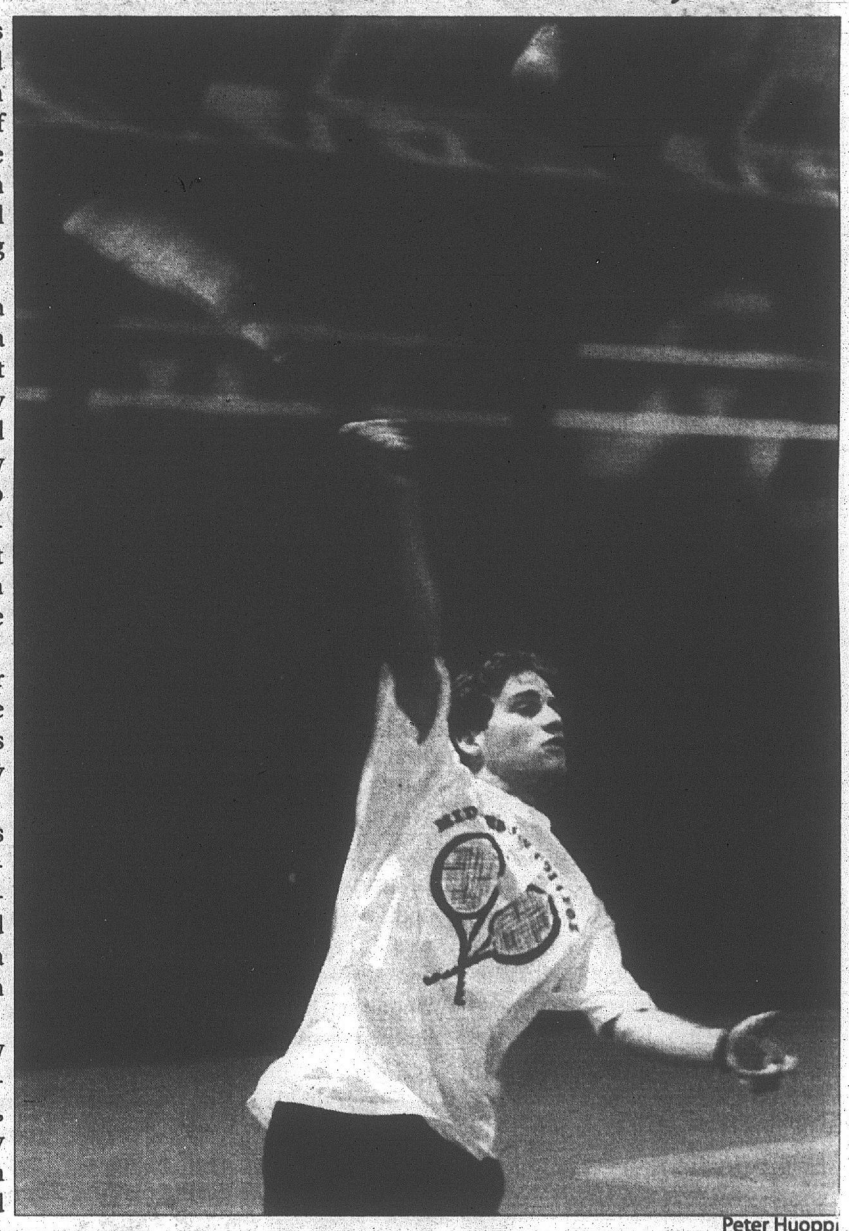
After taming fellow NESCAC opponent Hamilton 8-1 in their first match, the women faced nationally ranked Luther College from Minnesota, and suffered their first loss, despite a strong showing from first-year Ariella Neville at number three singles, who came away with Middlebury's sole victory.

The women rebounded quickly in their following matches, as sophomores number one Hilary Johnson and Anne Lucke led the team with convincing victories against Salisbury State and Colby.

The women concluded their week against fellow NESCAC rival Trinity, leaving with a 8-2 loss, despite impressive victories at number three doubles from Anne Lucke '02 and Linda Capewell '03 and Lucke in singles, gutting out a long-winded three setter against Trinity's number two singles player.

"Our strength lies in our youth and depth," said captains Katie Angelo and Kyle Wheale. "Although many may see it as a disadvantage. Young players seem to play with less fear and thrive on the pressure."

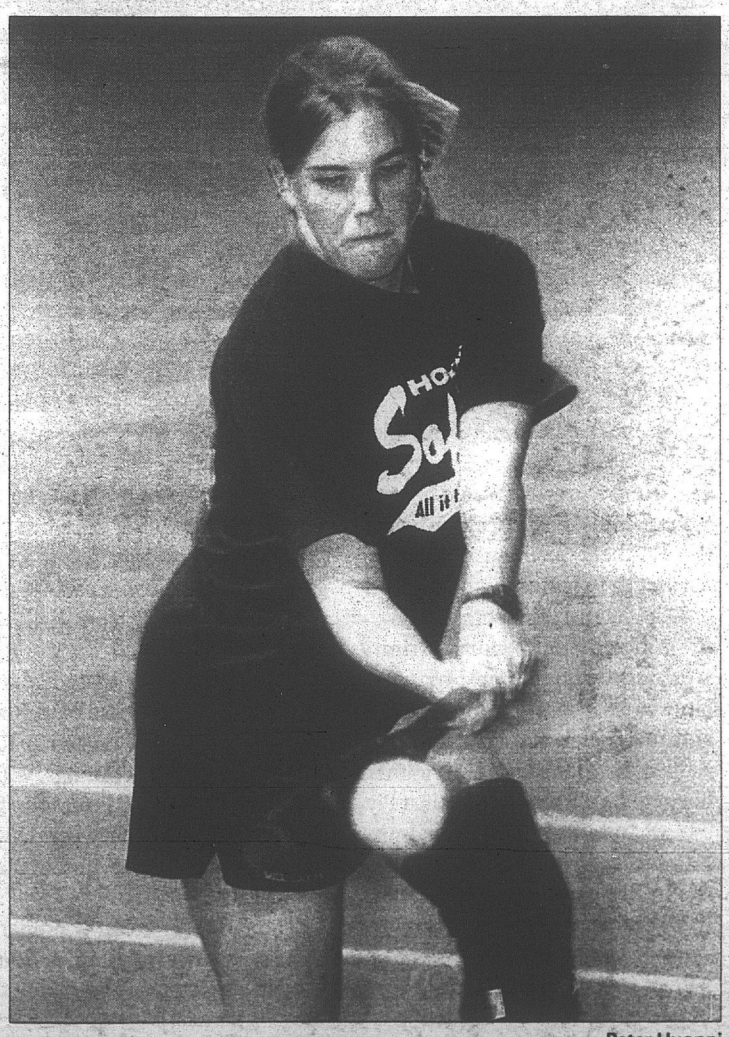
Coming off a winning record over spring break, the women's team looks to build on their previous success and momentum as they host the Middlebury Invitational April 7-9.



Peter Huoppi

Peter Rosenblum '02 works on his overhand during practice on Tuesday afternoon.

Line Drive



Peter Huoppi

During Tuesday's softball practice in Fletcher Field House, *Lindsay Macpherson '03 works on her swing in a batting drill.*

Men's swimming takes ninth at nationals

(continued from page 24)

ished 11th with a time of 1:35.29. Their time of 1:34.81 in the preliminaries was a new team record.

Sophomore Grayson Stuntz swam two individual events and all five relays. In the 200 individual medley he finished 28th in 1:56.09. In the 100 butterfly he finished fifth in 50.42, marking a new school record in that event.

Ian Doherty '00 broke the third record of the weekend in the first leg of the 800 freestyle relay. The team of Doherty, Shomaker, Ben Stucker '00 and Stuntz finished ninth in 6:55.57. Doherty's time of 1:42.88 broke the school record, taking 1.6 seconds off the record set at the beginning of the season.

Doherty went on to swim the 100 and 200 backstroke events. His time of 51.95 in the 100 placed him 11th, while his time of 1:52.91 in he 200 earned him 14th. Also swimming the 100 backstroke was Scott Strickler, who was 27th with a time of 53.48.

Senior David Shomaker swam the 50 freestyle in 21.55 seconds, finishing 20th. In the 200 freestyle, his time of 1:43.70 was actually a new school record, but was broken later in the day by Doherty. Senior Mark Williams swam the 200 breaststroke in 2:11.03 and finished 30th.

In the 200 freestyle relay the team of Shomaker, Stucker, Stuntz and Doherty saw an 11th place finish in a time of 1:25.59. The 400 medley relay team of Doherty, Williams, Stuntz and Shomaker finished ninth in 3:27.55.

Diver Derek Chicarilli finished fourth overall on the one-meter board with 430.25 points in the finals. On the three-meter board he finished 16th with 363.50 points. "Derek was most impressive, as usual," Coach Solomon said.

The final event of the competition was the 400 freestyle relay. The team of Shomaker, Stuntz, Stucker and Doherty finished sixth in 3:06.95.

"Out of the seven swimmers, men and women combined, who qualified for NCAAs this year, five were seniors," Coach Solomon explained. "They are an amazing group, and I couldn't have asked for a better way for each to end their careers. It was very emotional. It is obvious that this was the final chapter on some fantastic careers, and I was just thrilled to be able to share it with them." Despite losing so many dynamic seniors, Solomon maintains a positive outlook for next season.

Indians predicted to top Red Sox, Yankees in AL

(continued from page 22)

knock off the Yankees or the Red Sox. It's too bad though that no one will even be watching the American League—they'll all be too busy checking out Mark McGwire, Ken Griffey Jr., Sammy Sosa, and Jeff Bagwell in the NL Central. These head-to-head match-ups will captivate fans from April into late September, when the Reds and Cardinals meet in their last series of the year. Maybe Junior or Big Mac will be going for 71 home runs, or even 81. Sadly though, no home run race would be nearly as interesting as seeing a defenseless John Rocker on the New York number 7 subway, wishing he had simply shut his mouth.

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NCAA Tourney Chatter

By Morgan Jones
Staff Writer

If you're a big college basketball fan, and, unless you went to Jamaica, Cancun, or Guam for spring break, you were probably able to watch a good deal of the NCAA men's basketball tournament. And, unless you have mental powers somewhere in between Dionne Warwick and Rainman, you probably didn't come close to predicting all the final four participants. Not only is there only one number-one seed left (Michigan State), but there are also two teams (North Carolina and Wisconsin) that stand as the first teams ever to enter the final weekend after 13 loss seasons. The tournament began normally enough, with the higher seed winning 29 of the 32 first-round games, but then the madness was restored in the rounds that followed.

Now, looking at the survivors, Michigan State and Florida have the greatest depth, but North Carolina has the hottest player in freshman Joe Forte. UNC and Florida, both pre-season Top 10 selections, turned their previously disappointing seasons around in a hurry, and at just the right time. And, how could we forget about Wisconsin? Pretty easily actually—the Badgers haven't made the Final Four since 1941 and play a style about as flashy as Al Gore. After everyone has already torched their brackets and attempted to steal their money back from various pools, I still think Michigan State will prevail over the three more surprising guests at Indianapolis.

Now that spring training has started, I would like to share some quick comments on the upcoming Major League Baseball season. First of all, even if you're not an intense baseball fan, mark June 29 on your calendar. Unless the infamous idiot John Rocker is traded to the Expos (where he can join South Park in making fun of Canada), he'll make his return with the Braves to play the Mets in New York, the city that hates him even more than Reggie Miller. Rocker would be smart to stay in the bullpen the whole series, but if he ventures out onto the field, he'll soon find out whether the Shea Stadium fans managed to find a battery to throw at him that's bigger than a Die Hard.

Although I am one of the few Middlebury students not from New England, I'll indulge all you Boston fans for a moment. Let me say this first, I do not agree with Sports Illustrated in hailing the Red Sox as the team to beat. However, I think that general manager Dan Duquette's dealing for Carl Everett was one of the smartest moves of the off-season. Everett will be an all-star this year, as well as the years to come, and will finally give Boston the athletic all-around outfielder they've desperately needed. Nevertheless, the Indians, with their ridiculously potent lineup and the addition of Chuck Finley, are my pick to

(see Indians page 21)

Men's and women's track dominate competition

By Sarah Alliman
Staff Writer

The Middlebury outdoor track and field team traveled to California this past week to train at the University of California at San Diego's facilities and compete at Point Loma Nazarene College. Both the men's and women's teams blew the competition away. The women scored an impressive 179 points, followed by Trinity in a distant second place with 79 points and Vanguard with 71 points. The men scored 128 points, followed by Trinity's 96 points and Vanguard's 20.

In the women's competition, Kristy Laramee '01, with a high jump of 5'7.5", has already qualified for the NCAA competition at the end of May. This feat is especially amazing because this meet was only the first of the season.

Michela Adrian '03 won the 3000-meters with a time of 10:21.60. Adrian said, "There were mostly Middkids in the race. But it was fun." Cindy Withington '00 won the 200-meters in a time of 27.93 seconds. Withington "felt strong" in this race. "I had a promising long jump and three [personal records]: in long jump, hurdles, and the javelin. So the hepathlon will be good this year."

Kate Irvin '01 ran an impressive 4:49.71 in the 1500-meters. She had set high goals for herself, trying to qualify for NCAAs during the first meet. However, she said, "After a week of intense training and after the first lap, I knew I couldn't make the time." Irvin also anchored the 4 x 400 relay, running with teammates Annah Heitkamp '00, Michelle Young '00, and first-year standout Emily Korot. The women, who made up one of four Middlebury teams running the 4 x 400, won with a time of 4:12.51. Coach Beatty said of Korot, "She came out of nowhere and did very well. Her time of 2:18 in the 800 is unheard of for a walk-on. She really has wheels and will do great things for the team." Korot placed second in the 800-meters, behind Heitkamp who ran a 2:17.38.

In the 400-meter race, Michelle Young '00 won with a quick time of 60.69. This time is especially amazing because Young came down with the flu the morning of the meet. Additionally, she has "never run an open 400 outdoors. It went a lot better than I thought." She also competed in the 4 x 100 relay with teammates Gillian Wood '03, Natalie Howley '03 and Withington. The team won this race in a time of 51.59 seconds. Young said that this time "was pretty close to our best time last year and there is still room for improvement." With other sprinters on the team talented enough to run in this relay, both Young and Withington expect a "run-off" later in the season to decide who of the more than eight runners will compete on the 4 x 100 squad.

Other winners were Christie Logue '02 in the hammer with a throw of 136'6"; Elissa Burnell '01 in the shot put with a distance of 33'8"; and javelin-thrower Heather Langlois '00 who threw 124'.

The men also put in an impressive performance, adding an NCAA qualifier to their ranks. Bryan Black '02 threw 187'7" in the javelin, landing him a spot in May's NCAAs. Black said, "The team was able to get a lot of constructive practice in; this was evident by Saturday's performance. There were PRs [personal records] on both sides, probably due to the great weather and the good practices." He also hopes that his personal performance will be "representative of the rest of the season. I felt loose and rested. We all put on a good showing."

Andy Boyer '02 won the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.63 seconds. Although he was a pentathlete during the indoor season, Boyer expects to focus on the hurdles, high jump, and 4 x 100 meter relay during outdoor track. Boyer said that the relay "went well even though we lost a runner to a hamstring pull."

Ethan Barron '01 was injured during the week's practice and elected to sit the meet out to ensure that no more harm would be done to his leg. The 4 x 100 team "grabbed a thrower," according to Boyer, and were quite pleased with how well he did. Thrower Nick Jocelyn '02 joined the team of Paul Horsham '00, Boyer and Andrew Healy '02 who won the event in a time of 45.76 seconds. Jocelyn said, "I don't run normally. I throw. But we did really well. Paul got us a really good start and each runner beat his respective competition."

Jocelyn placed second behind teammate Jeremy Holiday '03 in the hammer. Holiday's throw of 106 feet is impressive, considering it's the first time he has thrown the hammer, which is not a high school event. However, he was only "moderately pleased" with his performance and said, "there is a lot of work ahead of me."

The 4 x 400 relay team, composed of Krishna Moody '00, Craig Breen '00, Jim Becker '01 and Ben Pratt '00, had a solid performance, running 3:29.2. Moody said, "we all ran excellent races. Our goal was to beat the other NESCAC competitor and we soundly defeated Trinity."

Other winners were Becker in the discus with a throw of 107'10"; Pratt in the 400 with a time of 47.53 seconds; Romulo Braga '03 in the shot put with a throw of 42'3.25"; and Andy Dixon '00 in the pole vault, vaulting 14 feet.

All the competitors thought the trip was a good change from training in Middlebury. Black said that the trip was "really great. It was beautiful all week." In addition to the practices two times a day, Moody said that the trip to California "gave the team opportunities to become closer in many ways." Horsham noted that the trip "was well worth it. The sprinters and the distance runners hugely bonded and I met a lot more people than if we hadn't gone." Jocelyn remarked, "No matter what event it was, there were always 10 to 15 [Middlebury supporters] there. We really came together as a team."

The hope is that this great atmosphere will help the team even more as the season progresses. The athletes head to Springfield College for next weekend's competition.

Baseball team plagued with hitting woes

By Ted Walker
Staff Writer

The hot Florida sun proved unforgiving as the Middlebury baseball team found early wins tough to come by, finishing their spring break run in Ft. Myers with a 2-7-1 record.

The Panthers started their season against Coe College of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in a double header on Sunday, March 19. The Panthers lost the first game against Coe 10-6, despite a home run and a double from junior third-baseman Chris Kestner and two RBIs from junior catcher Matt Blake. In the second game, though, centerfielder/pitcher Devon O'Neil '01 pitched a gem, throwing all seven innings, allowing only two runs and striking out seven on his way to a 5-2 victory.

On Monday, the Panthers maintained their momentum and beat Macalester College in a slugfest, 15-14. Junior second baseman Jon Cormier went 2-for-5 with a home run and three RBIs as the Panthers scattered 19 hits. Down by a run in the bottom of the seventh and final inning, O'Neil, playing center field, came up to bat with men on second and third and one out. With the game on the line O'Neil poked a line drive hit into left field, driving in two of his three runs and winning the game for Middlebury. Senior pitcher/designated hitter Joe Exner pitched four solid innings in his first start of the year, and pitcher Michael DeGregorio '02 picked up the win in relief.

The next day in a rescheduled double header against Trinity, the Panthers began what would become a six-game losing streak, in which the Panthers' pitching and hitting fell victim to some tough breaks.

Middlebury lost both games of its doubleheader against Trinity, scoring only one run in 14 innings. Only after a loss to Hope College and two losses in a double header against St. John's did the Panthers begin to turn it around. Against Plymouth State, the Panthers had nine hits and five runs, their highest totals in five games. Despite the loss, the Panther offense was showing signs of recovery, as sophomore left fielder Dan Colonno went 2-for-3 with an RBI and a stolen base. Sophomore shortstop Brian Hamm added two RBIs and scored two runs, while center fielder Denny Smith '03 went 1-for-3 with 2 RBIs.

The Panther offense was showing signs of life, and the backward momentum of tough breaks and collective hitting doldrums was fading.

In their final spring break game against Calvin College, the Panthers came out swinging. Matt Blake had three hits in five at-bats, senior first baseman John Dickie went 2-for-4 with two runs scored, and Devon O'Neil went 3-for-4 with two RBIs, a run scored and a walk. Pitcher Ben Bedford, after a week of extensive relief pitching, came into the Calvin College game and threw nine strong innings, allowing just three earned runs and seven hits. Bedford was so fatigued after the week's work that instead of sitting down in the dugout in between innings, he had to throw in the bullpen to keep his arm loose and maintain his rhythm. In an effort worthy of a victory, though, on a questionable decision by the umpires, the game was ended in a 4-4 tie when the allotted amount of time expired and the Panthers were unable to take the lead in the bottom of the ninth.

Among the bright spots on the squad was Jon Cormier's .394 average, along with a team-high two home runs and tied for the team lead with six RBIs. Matt Blake hit .304 with a .424 on base percentage, and Devon O'Neil posted 6 RBIs while pitching 12.1 innings, with a 2.19 ERA and a 1-1 record. Ben Bedford finished the week having logged a team high 18.1 innings and a 5.40 ERA.

The Panthers are now preparing to play at Wesleyan in a double header on April 1. The team's first home game at Forbes Field is on April 5 at 4:00 against Colby-Sawyer, and they will play Castleton State at Forbes on April 8, at 1:00.

Hoping for a repeat performance

Peter Huoppi

Undeterred by Tuesday's rain, *the women's lacrosse team hones their skills in hopes of a second consecutive NCAA championship.*

Women's hockey wins inaugural Division III championship

(continued from page 24)

cle that went over Hutchinson's shoulder into the net.

The second period saw Middlebury continue to control play, but Augsburg's goal had given them some momentum as they looked to tie the game. Neither team was able to put the puck in the net, and Middlebury entered the third period with 2-1 lead still in hand. To start the third, Sylvia Ryan '00 was able to put the puck past Schmidt just three minutes into the period, building Middlebury's lead and giving the team room to breathe. Catherine Elkins '02 gave Middlebury a 4-1 lead when she took a loose puck that was out of Schmidt's reach and put it into the net (assists to Labbe and Ryan). With about eight minutes left, Catherine Pullins '00 took the puck in Middlebury's defensive zone, rushed up ice, faked the shot and then slipped the puck into the net, bringing the final score to 5-1. With the win, Middlebury needed either a win or a tie in the Saturday game to bring home the national crown.

Middlebury truly shut down Augsburg with strong defense—the Auggies rarely got quality scoring chances, and Hutchinson played well to take away any opportunities Augsburg had. Said Hutchinson after the game, "Augsburg had some trouble breaking through our defensive line but when they did they made some great plays and it was so much fun to be involved in the play and face some great shots." Hutchinson made 10 saves in the win.

Going into the second game, the team could sense that it was on the doorstep of reaching its goal for the season. Said Pullins, "When we were in the locker room before the first period of the second game, one of the girls said to the team that this was it. This was the end. We did not have to save any energy for any other game, because this was the farthest we could go." Coach Mandigo commented, "We were focused and confident, but not overconfident. In game one, we played very well in the third, but the first two periods could've gone either way."

In the second game, Middlebury again came out firing, showing that there would be no chance of a letdown from the win the day before. While Augsburg also had their chances, Beth Denoncourt '00, playing in her final collegiate game, was up to the task, and kept the game a 0-0 tie. Four minutes into the game, Elkins sped up ice on a breakaway at the end of a Panther penalty kill, and with a couple quick moves, put the puck into the net, giving the Panthers a 1-0 lead. At 5:37 of the period, Erin Neil brought puck around the front of the net, and after a flurry of shots by several Panthers, was able to give Middlebury a 2-0 lead (on an assist by McDougall and Audrey Pellerin '03). Less than one minute later, Labbe headed towards the Auggies' Schmidt on an end to end rush, and with no Augsburg defenders able to catch her, scored to put the Panthers up 3-0 early into the game. With six minutes left in the period, Labbe and Ryan found themselves on another Middlebury breakaway, this time with Labbe receiving a beautiful pass from her line-mate to tally Middlebury's fourth goal in the opening 14 minutes of the game (also assisted by Elkins). The shocked Auggies took a timeout, hoping to regroup after being blown away so quickly. The Augsburg players came out with new fire, and towards the end of the period, were able to cut the lead to 4-1, as Sarah Garrison took a puck that got away from Denoncourt and poked it into the net.

In the second period, Middlebury again showed up ready to play, and made sure Augsburg would have no chance to get back into the game. Eight seconds into the period, the Panthers received a power play, and before the Matthews Arena announcer had even finished announcing the penalty, Ryan ripped a power play goal into the net for a 5-1 lead (assists to Elkins and McDougall). Captain Sarah Hall '00 scored off a scramble in front of the net at 16:04 of the period, assisted by Jacqui Phillips '03 and Angela Kapus '03. At 18:48 into the second, Phillips scored a power play goal (assisted by Carpenter and Amber Neil '03), giving Middlebury an amazing 7-1 lead. Finally, with just 12 seconds left in the period, Ryan took a loose puck and got it past Schmidt (assisted by Labbe and Laurie Richmond '02), putting the Panthers up 8-1.

According to Hall, "The first and second period on Saturday were two of the best that we played all year." Carpenter explained, "We reached our peak game speed [in game two] and after the first few shifts things fell into place and we never let up. After the second period of game two, when we were up 8-1, we all entered the locker room eager to get back on the ice."

The third period saw Middlebury skate well, but despite 14 shots on net, the game stayed at an 8-1 score. Denoncourt only faced four shots in the final period, for a total of 11 saves in the game. She commented, "As a goalie, keeping Augsburg to only two goals in the series was not that difficult, our defense only allowed a total of 23 shots the entire series."

All season long, Middlebury has won with outstanding offense, oppressive defense and strong goaltending. Hase praised the goalies in particular, saying, "I only wish our goalies, Megan Hutchinson and senior Beth Denoncourt, had received more attention through the season and through Beth's career. They are the best goalies out here, but that seems to just be something only our team knows."

Mandigo stressed that there were several standout performances on the weekend, and that his entire team had played great hockey. He specifically pointed out Carpenter and McDougall, saying that in many ways, both had played their best hockey of the season. McDougall "played great back-to-back games, while Sarah knows her role and played well with it." Obviously, Carpenter's early goal in the first game set the tone for her play on the weekend, and for Middlebury's chance to win. Mandigo also stressed that Elkins was outstanding in her ability to "dominate play and control the puck," while Kapus and Neil played great games as well.

Ryan, who was named the MVP of the national championships, talked of how the team came together to earn the wins: "There was an all around team effort put forth throughout the entire tournament. Everyone stepped up her game and we really took control from the start. Being a senior and having that be my last game, I couldn't ask for anything more. It was great to look in the crowd in Boston and see that, even though it was not a home game at the Chip, there were still people there to cheer us on. Middlebury is a great place to play hockey, I am lucky to have been given the chance to experience how great it truly is."

McDougall echoed Ryan's sentiments, stating "Being a senior, I am so excited that I can leave Middlebury having won a national title. I will remember this championship and this team for the rest of my life." McDougall's excellent play on the weekend earned her a spot on the All-Tournament team, along with Elkins, Carpenter and Labbe. Captain Sarah Hall commented, "I know that I speak for all of the seniors when I say that if you have to accept that it has to end, and it does, I could not have asked for a better group of people or a better way to end than this. It is every athlete's dream to go out on top, and every person on this team has made that dream possible for the six of us Being the first team to win a Division III national championship in women's hockey is a phenomenal achievement, and I know that we will all cherish it for the rest of our lives."

Said Pullins, "We rose to the top, played with our hearts, and did what we had to do. We did it for ourselves and our coaches... and for the seniors who will never again be lucky enough to skate with the Panther pride that we had for the past four years. Although a memory, it will last forever."

The Panthers finish the season with a school record 27 wins, bringing their record to 27-2-1 on the season. Elkins, Labbe, Pullins and Ryan were all named All-Americans, giving Middlebury an amazing four of the six spots on the First Team. Ryan's 33 goals this season set a new school record, while her 114 career goals make her the career goals-scored leader.

Pullins finished her career with 52 goals and 55 assists, putting her sixth on the all-time scoring list with 107 points. Denoncourt finished with eight shutouts this season, and her season goals-against average of .79 puts her second in Middlebury's record books for single-season GAA, while her season .925 save percentage ranks fourth all-time. Denoncourt's eight shutouts this season set the single season record for shutouts by a Middlebury goalie.

Mandigo gave special praise to his seniors: "Sylvia's done it all for four years, and will graduate with over 200 points. Catherine Pullins is our all-time leading scorer among defensemen. Sarah Hall is one of the most outstanding captains I've ever had, and Christa McDougall works so hard, and can be physical when she has to. Kelly Hase has great hands and great vision, and Beth Denoncourt doesn't get the recognition she deserves for her great accomplishments. I cannot give them all enough credit. There's satisfaction in seeing the seniors win the national championship, to see history in the making."

He went on to state that being a part of the first-ever national championship series was an honor for Middlebury, and that, with the growth in women's hockey, "it's been a long time coming. It was a memorable experience."

Kelly Hase may have summed it up best, saying, "I could not have asked for a better way to end my hockey career here. Who can ask for more than going out on top? I have loved being a part of this team, and the memories I have with my team are always something will cherish. I feel lucky to have been a part of it for the last four years."

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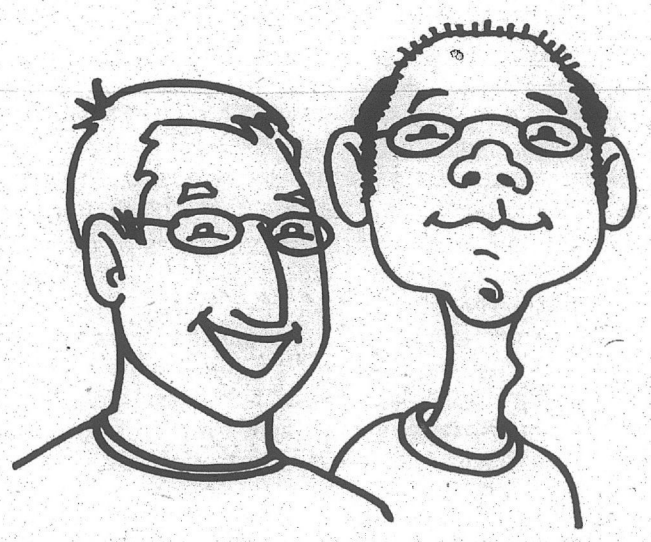

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52 Merchants Row

Men's Sports	
Baseball @ Wesleyan	April 1
Track and Field @ Springfield	April 1
Tennis vs. Amherst	April 1

The Campus Sports

Women's Sports	
Lacrosse vs. Union	April 5
Softball @ Wesleyan	April
Tennis vs. Mt. Holyoke	April 1

Women's hockey wins first-ever national championship title

By Margaret Aycock & Mike Hartt
Staff Writers

Trent Campbell, *The Addison Independent*

Sophomore Catherine Elkins out-maneuvers a sprawling Augsberg defender during Middlebury's victory in the first-ever Division III national championship.

Once again, the Middlebury women's ice hockey team has made history. Already the owners of a 94-game unbeaten streak in the ECAC league, winners of five straight regular season and conference championships, and the consensus number one team in national polls for half a decade, the Panther women finally were able to claim the title National Champions. For the first time ever, a Division III women's national champion has been crowned, in a weekend series sponsored by the American Women's College Hockey Alliance on March 24-25 at Northeastern University's Matthews Arena. To no one's surprise, Middlebury's women took home the trophy in a dominating performance, routing number-two ranked Augsburg, the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference winner, in a two game series.

Going into the weekend, Middlebury was focused on playing well and bringing home the title—all year long, the Panthers have been determined to put themselves in position to play in the national championship series. According to Nico Kieves '02, "Having the opportunity to win the first ever Division III national title is a thought that everyone on our team has kept in the back of their mind since the first day of preseason practice. It is an opportunity that has never been presented to us, and it has been one that we wished to capitalize on from the start of the year. Looking back at the year, we broke the season down into smaller pieces, but always with the goal in mind that this is where we wanted to be at the end of the year." Said Kelly Hase '00 on the team's mindset, "I think everyone was really excited for the games and just the opportunity to play in the tournament. ...We had been practicing for three weeks and were completely ready to play—mentally and physically."

In the first game of the series, Middlebury's Sarah Carpenter '01 received a pass from Erin Neil '03 and drilled a slap shot from the point past Augsburg's goalie Meg Schmidt, giving the Panthers a quick 1-0 lead just a minute into the game. Said Carpenter on her goal, "It was my first shift on the ice, and I was only thinking about getting the shot on net. I never imagined it would actually go in. I've never been as excited for a goal in my life."

After getting the quick lead, Middlebury and Augsburg began to feel each other out, adjusting to being back in a game after several weeks off, while trying to figure out the other team's style of play. Since East-West crossover games are rare, the teams have only faced once before, as Middlebury earned a 4-0 win early in the 1998-1999 season. According to Carpenter, "Playing after three weeks of just practice made the first period of the first game tough. We pushed through it and continued to improve as the game went on."

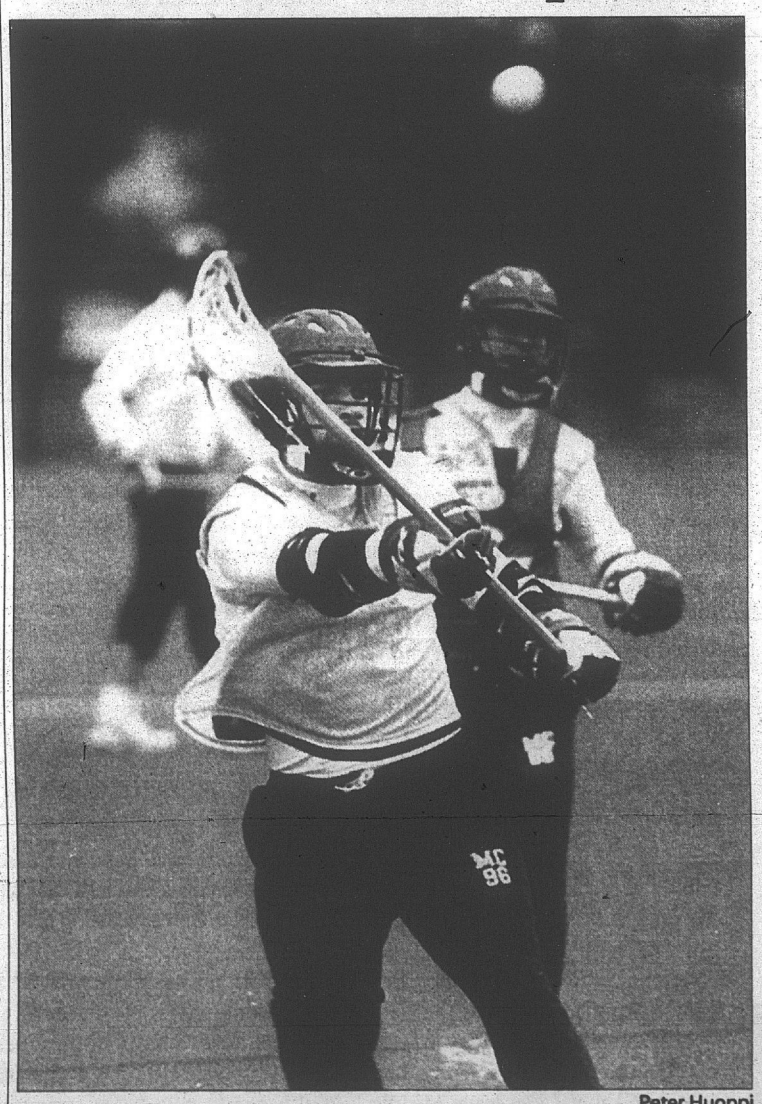
According to Coach Bill Mandigo, "Having three weeks off is difficult, but we did the best we could. We knew we would be rusty, and our goal was to improve with each period. [Scoring early] was tremendously important, it broke the ice and it was a relief because we knew then that we could score on their goalie."

As the first period continued, Middlebury began to get into its offensive flow, dominating play and earning several quality scoring chances. Approximately nine minutes into the game, Schmidt shut down Kelly Hase '00 as she tried to hit in a shot right in front of the net. Two minutes later, Middlebury's goalie, Megan Hutchinson '02, did the same to an Augsburg player heading to the net with the puck. With seven minutes left, Schmidt again robbed Middlebury, this time stopping Michelle Labbe '01 on a breakaway.

With just under five minutes left in the first period, Christa McDougall '00 had a breakaway opportunity, and while Schmidt made the initial save, Erin Neil was there to put back the rebound to give Middlebury a 2-0 lead. With just eight seconds left in the first period, the Auggies' Angie Rieger '01, the MIAC Player of the Year, took a hard shot from the top of the face-off cir-

(see Women's hockey, page 23)

Men's lacrosse squad ranked third in country



Peter Huoppi

Sebastian Astrada '02 launches a pass during Tuesday afternoon's practice.

By Ben Dow
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's lacrosse team, playing its first games since the 1999 NCAA tournament, appeared to be in top form over spring vacation by going 2-1 with wins over Denison University and Connecticut College. The victories were sandwiched around a tough loss at Gettysburg College, a team who, like Middlebury, owns a top-five ranking.

The season began with a face-off against Denison at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore on March 19. The team got plenty of offense in the 17-9 win, led by junior Holt Hopkins' seven goals and one assist. Zach Herbert '02, who notched three goals and an assist, followed him. Second-team All-American goaltender Dave Campbell '00 recorded 14 saves. Campbell is fronted by arguably the conference's strongest defense, anchored by venerable seniors Jed Raymond and Ben Fritz. Midfielder Pete Soden '00 got down for 28 face-offs in the game, winning 13 for Middlebury.

Campbell is fronted by arguably the conference's strongest defense, anchored by venerable seniors Jed Raymond and Ben Fritz.

The team then faced the second-ranked Bullets. Despite taking 55 percent of the face-offs, the third-ranked Panthers fell 10-6. Hopkins again led Middlebury by ringing up four goals, followed by a goal and an assist from David Seeley '02. Campbell made 10 saves but had a save percentage of 50.

The final stop on the long drive home was at Connecticut College. Middlebury took a 3-1 lead in the first only to manage a 3-3 second period. Then, after the half, the Panthers tore the game open for good by scoring the first four goals of the half en route to a 5-1 third period. Three goals by each squad in the fourth brought the final score to 14-8 Middlebury. Herbert tallied 4 goals on attack, complimented by Seeley's three goals and assist. Campbell stopped seven of the 15 Camel attempts for a save percentage of 47. Middlebury let fly with 29 shots in the contest.

Swimming takes ninth at nationals

By Shannon Egan
Staff Writer

The swimming season came to a close last week as seven members of the men's team traveled to Emory University for the NCAA Division III Swimming and Diving Championships, a three-day competition. Head coach Peter Solomon could not have been happier with the team's ninth place finish in a field of more than 50 teams from across the country. The team outscored Williams, who finished 10th, and had beaten the Panthers at the New England Championships only a few weeks earlier.

"The National swimmers do such a great job of keeping their focus," remarked Coach Solomon. He commented that for most swimmers, the season ends after New Englands in February, and only a small group continues to practice. "They know from the beginning of the season that nationals is the ultimate goal, and they work even harder after New England's," he said. "It definitely showed last week."

The Panthers had three new varsity team records over the course of the weekend. In the 200-yard medley relay, Scott Strickler '02, Mark Williams '00, Grayson Stuntz '02 and David Shomaker '00 fin-

(see Men's swimming, page 21)